The Middlebury Campus

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Largest Class in Years Convenes in Mead Chapel

By WILL DIGRAVIO
Managing Editor

Members of the Class of 2021 were officially welcomed to Middlebury on Sep. 10 at the college's annual Convocation.

The 638 first year students that filled Mead Chapel for the event were admitted from a field of 8,910 applicants, and comprise one of the largest classes in the college's 217-year history. The Class of 2021 brings the total number of enrolled undergraduate students to 2,753.

At last Sunday's ceremony Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles noted 13 percent of this year's class are first-generation college students and 27 percent are people of color, the highest percentage in the college's history.

Though he cited the achievements of many incoming students, Buckles reminded those in attendance that the admissions process is not a treasure hunt.

"We're not looking for fully formed 18 year-olds. We're not looking for perfection, nor should you get wrapped up in finding perfection here at Middlebury," he said. "The truth is you're not going to find it."

Buckles advised the Class of 2021 to work hard, be resilient, take risks, and not be afraid of failure. In doing so, he said, students can and will find the best versions of themselves.

"Remember what it was about Middlebury that made you want to apply and come here," he said. "Relish that as you set about your path and find your way."

Student Government Association President Jin Sohn '18 echoed Buckles's advice, and told students to make the most of their time at Middlebury, and to think of ways they can improve the college for subsequent generations of students.

"Think about those who will come after you," she said. "Do things that will leave Middlebury a better place than you found it."

The event ended with a speech from College President Laurie Patton, who began her remarks by acknowledging that adjusting to life at Middlebury can be both exhilarating and disorienting, especially when ev-

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EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

51 Main, the college-owned restaurant located on Main Street in the heart of downtown Middlebury, has closed permanently. The restaurant had remained open for nine years, but poor sales recently forced its closure.

College-Owned 51 Main Closes Its Doors

By BRIDGET COLLITON
Local Editor

After nine years of business, 51 Main has closed its doors for the last time as Middlebury welcomes The Rough Cut to the iconic space this fall. Ben Wells, a local restaurateur and former Middlebury College Men's Rugby coach, will be leading this venture along with a small partnership group. "We really wanted ownership of whatever took over the 51 Main space to be local," Dave Donohue, special assistant to the President and director of community relations, said in an e-mail. The Rough Cut will be privately owned and the College will retain no control over it.

Leading up to the closure, 51 Main had been losing money for years. "We've tried different approaches to try to improve the bottom line but we haven't been successful," Donohue stated. "At the same time student interest in 51 Main has ebbed and flowed over the years." In the last year, employees had also began to notice the restaurant's decline.

"At first it seemed like there were a lot of students but then it started to not be a ton of people," former bartender and waiter Alex Hogenhuis '19 said.

Another student who worked at 51 Main, who wishes to remain anonymous due to employment retribution, also saw the decline in customers.

"There weren't very many people coming in, except for Tuesdays or when there was a popular band coming in," they stated in an interview. "There were days when only maybe 20 people walked through the door."

The student also cited poor business practices as a main reason for the restaurant's decline.

"It's a very formal environment, and we served very fancy food, and college students just want burgers and beer. We should've just served that, but the head staff was very against that idea," the student confessed.

On top of these criticisms, they mentioned that bands often cost more than the restaurant would generate in revenue in a given night. According to this student, the managerial staff's resistance to changing the identity of the restaurant ultimately led to the restaurant's demise.

"It was like they saw problems but never tried to fix anything," the student insisted.

Wells hopes to attract a wider variety of people by changing the composition and identity of the restaurant.

"We hope to appeal to a wide cross-section of the community with great service, great food, great drinks and a great experience for everyone," Wells stated in an e-mail.

Contrary to 51 Main, The Rough Cut will focus on serving barbecue and southern comfort food. It will still feature a bar, but its focus will shift specifically to specializing in bourbon and whiskey cocktails.

"The idea behind the look is that it will be like going to an outdoor barbecue - very relaxed, warm and comfortable," Wells explained.

In addition to a change in the food, the restaurant will also have a new spatial layout to accommodate a larger kitchen and a mechanical bull.

"It will be a totally different restaurant and business than 51 Main was," Wells insisted.

Despite the change in ownership, the College hopes to continue its affiliation with the space.

"We have discussed programming to attract students with the new ownership group and they are very interested in this kind of collaboration," Donohue said.

Both the school, and the partnership, view the space underneath the restaurant as holding great potential for student programming and events.

COLLEGE DEAN TO STEP DOWN AT END OF YEAR

By NICK GARBER
News Editor

Katy Smith Abbott, vice president for student affairs and dean of the college, will step down from her role in the administration at the end of December. She will continue teaching as a full-time professor in the art history department.

Smith Abbott's decision was first announced in August by President Laurie L. Patton. "I am both saddened at the thought of not having her as a member of the senior administration and pleased that she is remaining at Middlebury and following her academic and personal interests," Patton said in an email to students

Baishakhi Taylor, the current dean of students, will become interim vice president for student affairs on Jan. 1, 2018.

In an email to The Campus, Smith Abbott shared several goals for her remaining few months. First, she hopes to "continue to work on the implementation of Restorative Practices at Middlebury," an effort that was renewed last spring in the wake of disciplinary proceedings relating to student protests of Charles Murray. Smith Abbott said that facilitated workshops on restorative practices are slated to take place this week, followed by an intensive training program later in the year.

Second, Smith Abbott plans to "share with the student body and the broader community the results of a social life study that was conducted through student focus groups last year." Once the results have been publicized, she said, "we will need to work as a community to prioritize the many recommendations articulated in the report."

Finally, Smith Abbott plans to work closely with the Student Affairs Leadership Team, composed of several other administrators, to "ensure a smooth transition" following her departure. "This is a group of seasoned professionals and strong leaders, so I'm not worried," she said, "just committed to doing all I can to support each of these great colleagues."

In her August email, Patton

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SGA President Jin Sohn Talks Year Ahead

By KYLE NAUGHTON and ELAINE VELIE
News Editors

This week The Middlebury Campus *sat down with Jin Sohn '18, the new Student Government Association (SGA) President. This interview has been lightly edited for clarity, and was conducted both in-person and via email.*

Middlebury Campus (MC): What are your primary goals for this academic year?

Jin Sohn (JS): We just completed our SGA Fall Retreat where members of the SGA had the opportunity to learn more about the logistics and roles of the SGA, as well as interact and connect with different community members such as administrators, staff, and faculty. There are already exciting and innovative ideas and initiatives that SGA Cabinet Directors and SGA Senators are working on, and there will be more information on these initiatives in the coming weeks. At this retreat, a term was coined for the year: "student-centric." We want the SGA to become much more visible and accessible to students. One way we are aiming to do this is by starting an SGA Snapchat account, which will be going live soon. We hope to show students the actual work of the SGA and the faces of its members, so that the SGA is not just another institution but a student-driven body.

Along the lines of accessibility and transparency, I am personally hoping to revamp different existing resources on campus such as the WeTheMiddKids website. The website is a forum which students can use to put up an idea or some

> ***"My hope for the SGA this year is to help facilitate such conversations from, as much as possible, a supportive and equitable environment."***
>
> JIN SOHN '18
> SGA PRESIDENT

kind of complaint, then once those hits a certain amount of upvotes in the community, the SGA has to address it. The website is not that user friendly and the last time it was used was 2014, but the website is still there so we're going to look at how we can revamp it and make it more accessible to students, and also try to include administrators in a more open dialogue.

I hope to offer different opportunities for students to have a more direct role in their SGA; this includes launching SGA workshops and information sessions, such as a bill writing workshop. I am also working towards increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus by partnering with different offices and departments, including Student Financial Services and MiddRides, to improve and expand the services for students.

MC: What specific areas of the SGA do you hope to alter or improve this year and why?

JS: Within SGA there's a senate, which is elected by the student body, and then there's the cabinet made up of students that are nominated by myself, the SGA president, and then ratified by the SGA senate. One thing that we're trying to do is bridge groups closer together, so essentially we have appointed SGA Senators to different Cabinet Committees. For example, the SGA Educational Affairs Committee will now have an SGA Senator who will be a committee member on the SGA Educational Affairs Committee. The hope is that this new system will allow for a better flow of communication, increased student engagement, and greater input into the actual initiatives and implementation of bills.

MC: Do you intend to approach the administration differently from

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Remembering Michael Moss

By ETHAN BRADY
Editor in Chief

Michael Moss, a rising senior from the class of 2018, died on Thursday, Aug. 17, after an extended illness.

Michael, a joint major in environmental studies and conservation biology, was expected to complete his degree this fall and graduate on March 1, 2018. Middlebury awarded him an honorary bachelor's degree shortly after his death.

COURTESY OF BOB MOSS

Moss's family will host a memorial service on Oct. 28 at the Rubin Museum in New York City.

At Middlebury he played on the men's rugby club team and was a member of the yoga club. He was on the dean's list and a college scholar. He attended the Middlebury Spanish language school in summer 2015.

He was a member of Ross Commons. Ann Hanson, his dean, said she knew and admired Michael. "He was an excellent and hardworking student," she said. "He took his academic work seriously. He was loyal to his friends and he had a wonderful sense of humor."

Professor Steve Trombulak, Michael's advisor whom he worked closely with, spent many pre-dawn mornings with Moss at "The Sanctuary," a nearby area where Trombulak conducts bird research with students.

"We shared a lot of mornings watching the sun come up over the Green Mountains and the Otter Creek, opening row upon row of mist nets to catch the birds migrating through the Middlebury College Teaching and Research Floodplain Forest Natural Area," Trombulak said in an interview with the college newsroom. "Each bird we banded and released formed one more connection for us with the natural world, one more neighbor in the wider ecosystem we were privileged to participate in."

Michael is survived by his parents, Bob Moss and Michela Nonis, of New York, and his sister, Alessandra. The family will have a memorial service to celebrate his life on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Rubin Museum in New York City. For more information, contact Bob Moss at bobmoss1@gmail.com.

If you have memories to share about Michael that you wish to contribute to a written remembrance, please email campus@middlebury.edu. An online version of this article will be updated accordingly.

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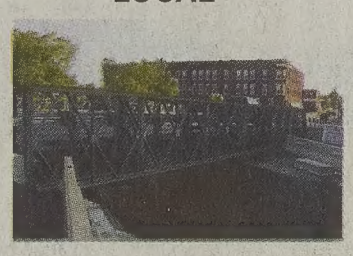

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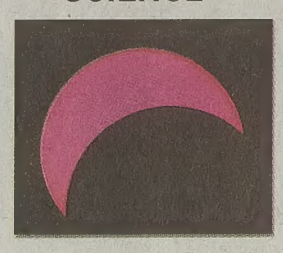

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Katy Smith Abbott to Step Down

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MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
Katy Smith Abbott has served in her current role since 2014.

praised Smith Abbott for her work to expand MiddView Trips, provide stipends for J-term courses and summer internships, and her role in the creation of "First@Midd," a program for incoming first-generation students.

"Over the years Katy has led and inspired numerous initiatives to improve the experience of our undergraduate student," Patton wrote. "Through it all, Katy has worked to enrich the experience for all of our students."

Smith Abbott first arrived at Middlebury in 1996. From 2002 to 2008 she and her husband, Steve Abbott, a math professor, served as faculty co-heads of Ross Commons. She was then appointed associate dean of the college and later, in 2011, dean of students. In 2014 then-president Ronald D. Liebowitz appointed Smith Abbott to her current position. She originally served on an interim basis but was formally named to the post later that year.

Taylor came to Middlebury in 2015 from Duke University, where she worked under Patton in Duke's Trinity College of Arts and Sciences. Like Smith Abbott, Taylor may eventually be named the official dean of the college despite being an interim appointment, although Smith Abbott had been employed by the college for 18 years when she was promoted.

Will DiGravio and Ethan Brady contributed reporting.

Sohn Discusses Accessibility, Inclusivity

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previous years?

JS: At the SGA Fall Retreat, the members of the SGA were able to speak with President Patton and have started working towards building a common agenda. This is in the hopes that the SGA and members of the administration will have more routine check-ins and less of a call and response form of communication. That way, the SGA and students can have a better understanding of what members of the administration are working on, and the administration will know what the SGA and students need. Additionally, the SGA has currently partnered with the Center for Community Engagement, the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life, and the Commons on relief efforts for natural disasters across the United States. There was an email sent out to students earlier this week regarding ways to get involved at go/middhelps, and ways to learn more about ongoing efforts at go/disasterrelief.

MC: How will you deal with the Charles Murray protests and their subsequent impacts within the SGA from last semester? Will the debate between free speech advocates and protesters continue?

JS: I think that there will still be many conversations in regards to

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Jin Sohn '18 served as SGA Chief of Staff during the 2016-17 year.

his visit within the SGA this semester, especially in light of the bills that were drafted but not passed last year. I think one of the biggest things I will do in my role as SGA President will be to facilitate conversations, whether they are between students or student groups, and do it from as equal of a playing field as possible. We're trying to keep things fair across different cabinets as well, for example with social life, we want to bring different student groups together either through formal conversations, casual parties, or other meeting areas.

For me, one of the most important things will be to facilitate and prepare for these important conversations by fostering as open of an environment as possible. Within SGA Senate, half of the senators are new, while the other half are returning; this gives us a wide variety of perspectives, so we need to find a way to move forward while still recognizing the events that did happen. It will be a tricky balance, but I think student initiatives will be crucial to hearing all sides. This is a question that many on our campus are reflecting on and seeking answers to. My hope the SGA this year is to help facilitate such conversations from, as much as possible, a supportive and equitable environment. Last year the SGA hosted discussions and panels for students to participate in, and we are hoping to initiate similar events this year.

Vermont Leaders Express Support For DACA

By Annie Grayer
Senior Writer

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, the Justice Department announced that DACA, an Obama-era executive order also known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, would be terminated unless Congress could pass a bill in the next six months. As it stands, the program allows undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children by their parents to remain in the country. Currently, the program protects roughly 800,000 immigrants.

As Attorney General Jeff Sessions articulated in his announcement of this decision, the Trump administration would stop adding new applicants to the program, but would continue to recognize existing DACA authorizations until their two-year lifespans expire.

Elected officials and advocates across the country have come out strongly against the Trump administration's decision to end DACA.

Vermonters Insert Their Voice

In Vermont, it is clear that those in power stand with the Dreamers.

According to Congressman Peter Welch (D), the impact of Trump's DACA Decision would leave upwards of 42 Vermonters at risk. President Laurie L. Patton and Chief Diversity Officer and DACA point person, Miguel Fernández, released a joint statement that was sent to the entire Middlebury community extending their support to DACA recipients.

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College Convokes 638

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eryone is "as talented as you are."

"Maybe you've already met one of your new classmates who's a published novelist and three-season varsity athlete, who started her own NGO and hike d the Appalachian trail solo. And the most annoying thing was, as you've probably already discovered, she was really nice, too," Patton said. "That's the Middlebury way."

Patton advised students not to compare themselves to one another, and said the best way for one to leave their mark on Middlebury is to, simply, be oneself.

"We chose you because we sensed, and you did too, that there was something about you and this place that made a really wonderful match," she said.

Patton told the incoming class that, at Middlebury, students are expected to be citizens of a "robust and inclusive public sphere, where you will likely be uncomfortable."

Though she did not mention the Charles Murray protest by name, she emphasized the college's commitment to freedom of expression and inclusivity, two issues that have been, and still are, at the forefront of campus-wide conversations in the aftermath of the protest.

"As members of [our] community, you have a particular obligation to that public space: make it more robust, and make it more inclusive. Don't let others be silenced, and don't let yourself be silenced, even if you are offended," Patton said. "Always look around to see who is included, and how you could use your talent and wisdom to include others' voices in the debate. And respect others' wishes to learn and grow, even if you dislike their opinions. That is true wisdom."

Patton ended her remarks by reiterating the need for students to be their best selves, and by reminding them that the wider Middlebury community is here to help.

"We will help you grow in your wisdom. We will help you bounce back. We will help you dream the world as it ought to be. And we will be here for you for the rest of your life," she said. "As one student put it to me, Middlebury is really supportive wilderness training for the mind, heart, body, and soul."

RAE AARON ELECTED SPEAKER OF SGA SENATE

By KYLE NAUGHTON
News Editor

During the Sept. 10 meeting of the Student Government Association (SGA), Feb Senator Rae Aaron '19.5 was elected speaker of the senate. Senator Aaron has served on the SGA since February 2016, her first semester, and hopes to improve both senatorial communication and transparency in her new position.

COURTESY OF RAE AARON
Rae Aaron '19.5 has served on the SGA since February 2016.

"Being elected speaker is a huge honor, and I'm really excited for this upcoming year," Aaron said. "Having spent many hours a week since I came to Middlebury working with senators, students and the administration and staff to improve the Middlebury experience in several ways, I'm looking forward to the opportunity to lead and facilitate discussions in the senate and continue in my role as Feb senator."

The responsibilities of speaker include organizing and conducting weekly senate meetings by establishing senatorial agendas and maintaining order. In her new role, Aaron hopes to streamline senatorial discussions and incorporate a fair multitude of perspectives both within the senate and throughout campus.

"As Speaker," Aaron said, "I hope foremost to facilitate efficient dialogue among senators and visitors during SGA meetings, expanding our conversations beyond the senators at the table. Debates are a central component of democratic representation, and I am looking forward to making sure senators' time is allotted fairly and that we are always looking for solutions from within the SGA and college community."

Senator Aaron feels particularly optimistic about assuming her new position, and encourages all students to voice their ideas or concerns to the SGA during the coming semester.

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Student Launches Race Against Racism

By AMELIA POLLARD
Local News Editor

On top of music lessons, sports practice and SAT prep, the students of America are now taking on a new role in the age of Trump: political activism. Although young people have been vocal at protests and rallies since the Vietnam War, a new wave of young teens has leapt onto the political scene since Jan. 21.

Vermont has had its share of motivated middle school and high school students who have identified a place for themselves in a convoluted political era. Ethan Sonneborn, a 13-year-old, announced in August that he is running for governor after noticing that there is no age requirement for the highest ranking state elected official. He only just started eighth grade in Bristol, Vermont, but clearly views age as irrelevant to politics.

In the Burlington Free Press, he stated, "We just elected our oldest President, and he tweets like a Kindergartener."

Rather than juggle a political campaign with schoolwork, Hope Petraro, a 15-year-old from Montpelier, has decided to organize a rally instead. This Sunday, Sept. 17, at 11:30 a.m., citizens from around the state are expected to gather for her rally, the Race Against Racism. The event begins with a 5k run, or walk, that is followed by a lineup of speakers, musicians and artists — all convening to begin a conversation that has few platforms in the community.

"We're trying to make the event accessible for youth," Petraro said in a phone interview. "We want them to get their feet wet in a world of activism so that they care about racism or social or climate justice. We want them to care for something important."

Petraro moved to Vermont from Brooklyn at age 12, and was greatly influenced by the large number immigrants she was surrounded by growing up. The adjustment to a predominantly white community after becoming adapted to one of many colors was supported by resources and forums Petraro found online.

> ***"I retreated to the internet to help find my place in this new community I found myself in."***
>
> HOPE PETRARO
>
> RACE AGAINST RACISM ORGANIZER

"I retreated to the internet to help find my place in this new community I found myself in," Petraro said.

"I found a lot of people who were very into social justice. There are all of these people on social media with progressive ideals who want to have these challenging conversations."

To translate this newfound interest in politics into hands-on involvement, Petraro began to bring up discussions of race and social justice to those close to her in Montpelier. Quickly, teachers and peers suggested that volunteering in the community would be a means for Petraro to immerse herself in the state's problems. Soon she was canvassing and working in the local Democratic Party phone bank, contacting residents across the region.

In a state with a political leader as progressive as Bernie Sanders, Petraro quickly was able to tap into the reservoir of activist groups in Vermont. Partnering with her event Race Against Racism are organizations such as Justice for All Vermont, Migrant Justice, and the locally-based Montpelier High School Diversity Club. The proceeds from the registration fee of $10 for adults and $5 for those 18 and under will be given to these partner organizations for their future endeavors.

Mark Hughes, co-founder of Justice for All Vermont, experienced a similar "culture shock" as Petraro when moving to Vermont from a relatively diverse town in the Midwest. His organization has backed legal reform in the state, such as H.308, a racial justice bill passed last May by Governor Phil Scott. Hughes will be a key speaker at the event on Sunday, as he will attempt to kick off a dialogue about racism that has been dormant in Vermont until recently.

> ***"We're trying to make the event accessible for youth. We want them to get their feet wet in a world of activism so that they care about racism or social or climate justice."***
>
> HOPE PETRARO

"We don't discuss race in Vermont," Hughes noted over the phone.

"We don't have the opportunity to have conversations and engage in activities with folks that aren't like us. That difference could be our race, socioeconomic standing, or political preferences. With events like this we have an opportunity as a community to pull together — to raise awareness."

Although his organization is run entirely by adults, he recognizes that young people are crucial in the laborious task of breaking barriers in Vermont.

"We've got to get some young folks, ones from other locations and also the ones in their twenties," Hughes remarked.

"I'm an old guy; I've been at this for just a few years, but I've been around the block a few times. I'm not going to be around much longer."

In Petraro's view, the Race Against Racism marks the beginning of a new brand of activism led by young students in the state.

"I think that the Trump presidency — and a lot of the discrimination and bigotry that's surfaced because of it — has seriously motivated students," she said.

"A lot of them feel as if they, or their friends, or their community as a whole, is being personally attacked."

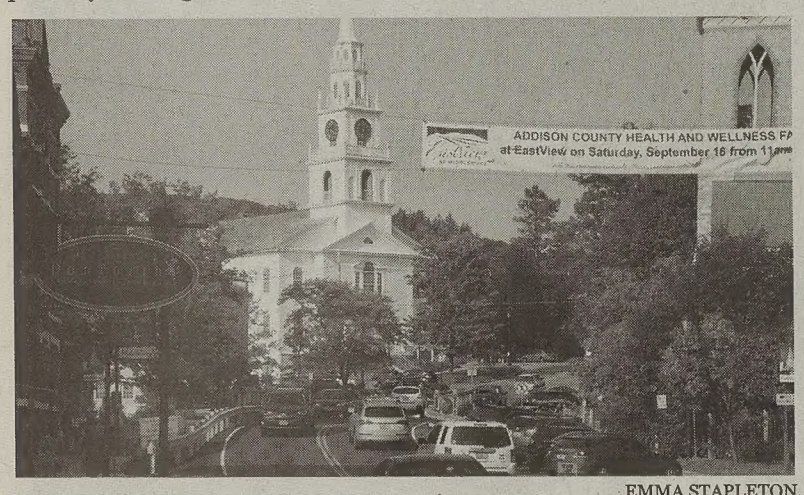
WWW.RUNREG.COM

Building Bridges in Middlebury

By REBECCA WALKER
Local News Editor

In the time that students have been away from campus for the summer, significant progress has been made on the Downtown Bridge Replacement and Rail Line Improvement Project in Middlebury. This progress is seen in the installation of two temporary bridges in Middlebury's downtown strip.

"The installation of the temporary bridges was the big event for this summer," Jim Gish, Middlebury's community liaison, told The Campus. "I think the milestone achieved is that we now have two bridges in town that present a safe roadway and safe pedestrian pathways through town."



EMMA STAPLETON

Two 4-year temporary bridges were completed downtown this summer.

These new roadways and pathways represent the changes made in accordance with a declaration that the state issued earlier this year.

"The State Agency of Transportation, with the approval of the governor, made what's called an emergency declaration. That declaration basically said that the roadways were no longer safe downtown," Gish explained.

One roadway in question was the one that crossed on Main Street, and the second was the one on Merchants' Row. These are the two main bridges in downtown Middlebury that cross over the rail line. They were built in the 1920s, so as they approached 100 years of existence, they may have been fairly structurally sound, but the sidewalks were decaying and required constant repair and partial shut downs.

The completion of the temporary bridges represents a small phase of the bigger picture, which, according to Gish, is "the improvement of the western corridor railway." A line of this railway runs from Rutland up to Burlington. The large project is mainly federally funded, with 95 percent of the money coming from the Federal Highway Administration, and the state has a 5 percent share. This bigger project will take place over the course of about four years.

Rebuilding roads and bridges in a main downtown area comes with unavoidable challenges that Gish witnessed this summer. He shared that there was a great deal of disruption to the downtown, as Main Street and Merchants' Row were closed temporarily in June and July and in early August, and there was a particularly difficult period of time when both were closed simultaneously for the construction of the temporary bridges.

"My biggest challenges were communicating to the community what was happening day-to-day so that they could plan out their activities downtown, and then just keeping in touch with the merchants on a daily basis to see how they were fairing and what the town could do to help get them through this construction season."

> ***"The ongoing mission of our town is making sure that students come downtown, and eat at Sabai Sabai, or shop at the Vermont Book Shop, or frequent our downtown."***
>
> JIM GISH
>
> COMMUNITY LIAISON

In addition to remaining in constant contact with businesses and merchants downtown, Gish worked hard to keep the visiting public informed. Alongside the Better Middlebury Partnership, the Addison Chamber of Commerce and a group called Neighbors Together, Gish helped to staff a volunteer information booth downtown during the project for visitors. This information booth provided information not only about the project progress, but also about places to stay, eat, shop and spend your time in downtown Middlebury.

Apart from the information booth, Gish also worked with the Better Middlebury Partnership to share project goals and timelines with merchants and to maintain business downtown despite the construction.

In a statement on his blog about the bridge project, Gish wrote, "I'm really looking forward to building on this summer's collaboration with the Better Middlebury Partnership, the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and that phenomenal community action group, Neighbors Together."

These community groups also hosted a successful block party downtown earlier this summer when both roads were closed. The party even included an excavator in which kids could have their pictures taken.

> ***"I think the milestone achieved is that we now have two bridges in town that present a safe roadway and safe pedestrian pathways through town."***
>
> JIM GISH

"It was a really good event where the businesses saw a lot of opportunity to keep their businesses open," Gish said.

Despite the projects and changes taking place, Gish and other community members hope to continue to attract visitors to Middlebury's downtown.

"The ongoing mission of our town is making sure that students come downtown, and eat at Sabai Sabai, or shop at the Vermont Book Shop, or frequent our downtown," Gish explained. "And in doing that they can see how our downtown is evolving throughout the course of this project."

Looking forward to the near future, Gish shared that most of his work this fall will consist of planning. The next phase of work for the project will begin in 2018, and that stage will be focused mainly on the construction of a new drainage system for the rail line. Most of this work will take place in Printers Alley so that the disruption is less significant than that of this summer's.

"Right now, what I'm engaged in is meeting on a regular basis with the State Agency of Transportation, federal highway officials in town and merchants to plan for next year," Gish shared.

As future plans for this complicated project progress unfold, Gish will continue to keep the public updated. Project updates as well as more in-depth details about the larger project can be found on his blog, www.middleburybridges.org.

JIM GISH

A block party was hosted in Middlebury during construction.

Adding Perspectives to the DACA Program

(Continued from Page 2)

President Patton and Professor Fernández stated, "We are writing to state clearly that no matter what the Administration decides to do, we will stand by our students, protect their rights, and continue to provide them an outstanding education. We are proud of the accomplishments of our DACA students and will continue to support them in every way we can."

The pair continued by saying, "Middlebury is and will remain unwaveringly committed to providing educational opportunities to students without regard to nationality, place of birth, immigration status, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or economic status. We evaluate applications from undocumented prospective students under our need-blind admissions policy with a commitment to meet 100 percent of demonstrated financial need regardless of country of citizenship or immigration status."

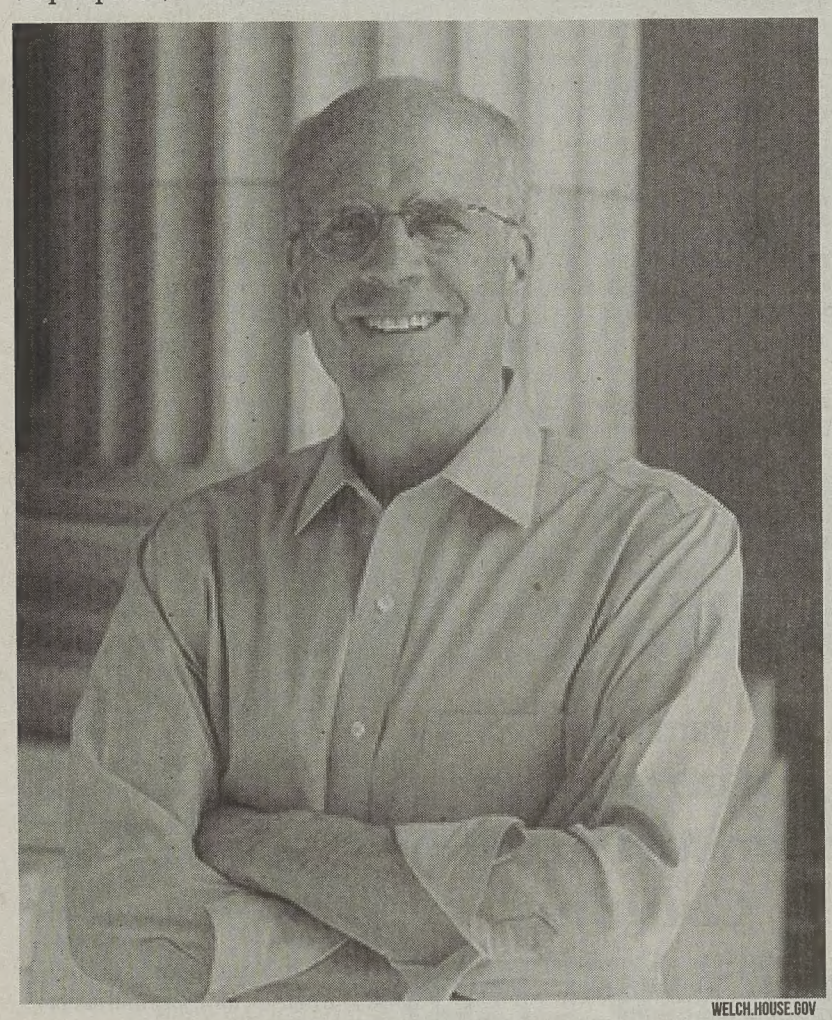
Senator Patrick Leahy (D) expressed his disgust with President Trump's decision in a press release.

"After promising to show DACA recipients 'great heart,'" Senator Leahy began, "the President has revealed he is as heartless as he is uninformed. We live in an unprecedented time when our President seeks to divide us, not to unite us. He rallies his dwindling supporters by exploiting fear and resentment, marginalizing those who are vulnerable and even those who risk their lives for our country and their communities. It is shameful and far beneath the office he holds."

Senator Bernie Sanders (D) echoed the sentiments of his colleague by releasing a statement that said, "Trump's decision on DACA is the ugliest and most cruel decision ever made by a president of the U.S. in the modern history of this country."

Even Governor Phil Scott, a republican, released a statement that denounced Trump's decision.

"It is my hope Congress will take action and continue this policy, which I believe provides long-term benefits to American culture, the economy and the prosperity of our country," the governor said.



WELCH.HOUSE.GOV

Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) shared his views about DACA on Monday.

UVM HUMANIZES THE STAKES

In response to the growing frustration and shock brewing amongst lawmakers, advocates and educators alike, University of Vermont president Tom Sullivan hosted a press conference on Monday at the Larner College of Medicine featuring House Representative Peter Welch (D) and Juan Conde, a first year medical student who is a DACA recipient, to emphasize why action must be taken.

President Sullivan began the press conference by reaffirming the university's commitment to protecting its undocumented students.

"I want to reiterate here today at this gathering on our university campus that we take our students' rights seriously," President Sullivan said. He went on to say, "as members of our university community, we will work proactively together and in solidarity to ensure the safety, well-being , and educational success of all of our students."

Congressman Welch went on to pledge his support to the DACA program.

"DACA is what is the best in America," the congressman explained, going on to promise, "I am here to say to Juan, to say to the university community, that I am going to do every single thing that I can so that at the end of this six month period Juan and his fellow 800,000 DACA dreamers have continued legal status."

WELCH CLARIFIES HIS POSITION

Unlike his colleagues, Congressman Welch was not as quick to denounce President Trump; Congressman Welch believes that DACA should exist not as an executive order, but as an indisputable law, and that the six month time period that President Trump has given Congress serves as an opportunity take action.

"I agree that President Trump telling Congress to do our job is correct. We should do our job. We should pass by law legal protections for individuals like Juan who were brought here when they were young by their parents. So I think that's a fair challenge by the President of the United States."

As Congressman Welch explained, the challenge in getting a DACA bill passed is not convincing members of congress on both sides of the aisle to believe in the dreamers, but to make sure that politicians don't use this vote as an opportunity to maneuver other contentious immigration issues, such as questions of border security and building a wall, into the conversation.

"What I am going to object to," Congressman Welch explained," is my republican colleagues using the Dreamers as a hostage so they can talk about the wall."

He concluded by urging his fellow members of Congress to do the right thing by saying, "Let's have a clean vote."

JUAN CONDE'S PERSPECTIVE

Standing in front of his peers and the press, Juan told his story. He shared how he came to Eagle Pass, Texas from Mexico when he was nine years old with his mother and brother. He explained how his mother instilled the American dream in him.

"My mother taught me that with hard work, dedication and grit you could accomplish anything that you dreamt," Mr. Conde said.

Mr. Conde explained that his mother's death from cancer in 2007 solidified his desire to become a doctor. At the time however, Juan was in college and could not apply to medical school because of his status as an undocumented resident. Instead, he pursued a masters degree in chemistry and a Ph.D. in biochemistry.

Then, in 2012, when the DACA program became a reality, Juan was able to apply to medical school, resulting in his matriculation at the Robert Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont.

Explaining his own perspective of the DACA program, Mr. Conde stated, "what DACA meant for me was my country believed in my dreams."

When the Justice Department announced the decision to rescind the program, Mr. Conde had to make a choice of whether he wanted to stay in the shadows or come forward. He chose the latter.

"I am tired of being afraid," Mr. Conde said. "This is my home. The American people are my people."

Mr. Conde also did not shy away from giving advice to other dreamers who have not publicly taken a stand.

"I would tell them to hang on, to continue doing everything that they've done so far, and to believe that America will take care of them, will not forget their contributions, and just to have a trust that the American people will do the right thing."

President Sullivan, Congressman Welch and even his classmates commended Mr. Conde for his bravery and his accomplishments.

Mr. Sullivan emphasized Mr. Conde's exceptionality.

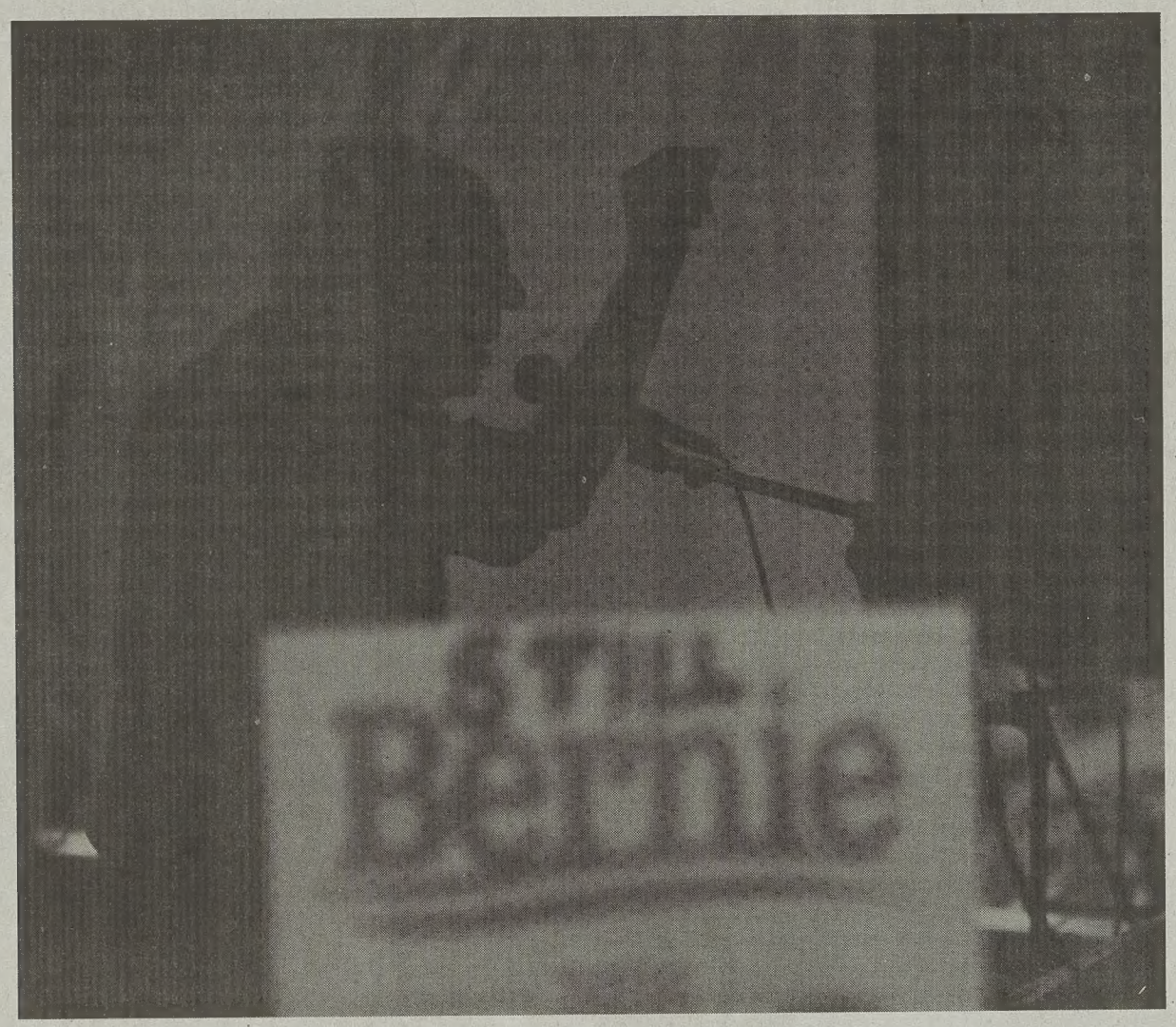
"He is a great example of the kind of young person we want to keep in the United States — one with character, demonstrated talent, high competence, persistence through success, and real accomplishments."

Congressman Welch further applauded Mr. Conde by saying, "Juan, your comments about your life and what motivated you and your embrace of the American dream is inspiring to all of us."

Reed Hausser, a classmate and friend of Juan's stood up and stated, "I just wanted to let Juan and other students like him know that we as a community are behind you and continue to support you and fight for you as much as we can."

Juan Conde's story could only be possible in the United States. But it is up to Congress and the American people to see how a story like Juan's ends.

Interested in food, Vt. politics and hiking?



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If We Are to Move Forward

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The word "community" is a trite word on this campus — in classes, in club meetings, in glossy admission materials. Since the beginning of her tenure, President Laurie Patton has stressed the importance of "rhetorical resilience" in strengthening the communal ethos of Middlebury.

But when it comes to the long and complicated work of building a more just and tolerant community, what is the non-rhetorical (interpersonal) labor necessary? Our campus is small and intimate. Trust is the underlying fiber that weaves us together.

It's safe to say that this core tenet of our campus is fractured. Charles Murray's appearance last spring revealed and exacerbated the pre-existing rifts that divided us and continue to drive us apart — between people and systems, between people and people. Those schisms were picked up by national media outlets, exploited, sensationalized. Everyone had an opinion on how and why the Murray incident occurred and what should have happened instead. The drama was discussed and re-discussed. Some voices were amplified, others drowned out. Now that the national media has moved on, we're left in this shared space to mend our community.

The turbulence surrounding Charles Murray's visit wasn't about him. His visit was merely the straw that broke the camel's back — the incident that opened up the floodgates and revealed the burgeoning tension, frustration and anger that lived on our campus. What the event proves is that Middlebury was not, and still is not, the ideologically homogeneous bubble that some may have believed it to be. We must address this reality head-on because the events of March 2 unveiled divisions and threatened our trust in one another.

The usual conversations about race, class and gender will help us begin to heal. But it is crucial that we move forward with more rigor, and especially more vulnerability, to rebuild our shared space. Vulnerability is what allows us to change and improve. When we are vulnerable we are transparent, revealing our most authentic selves — especially the flaws — and making us more empathetic and prepared to grow.

But it's hard to guarantee vulnerability. It's a challenging, serious thing to ask of anyone. True vulnerability is nearly unheard of from our administration, a body bound up in obscure legal requirements and inhibited by a strict PR narrative. Meanwhile, the faculty are vulnerable on occasion. Take when Bert Johnson publicly apologized for the departmental process of symbolically co-sponsoring Charles Murray's talk. But more often than not, the faculty — worried, in every likelihood, about upholding authority in the classroom — seem rigid and lacking in tenderness.

Moreover, as students at an elite college, we are trained to believe we are perfect and "good, open-minded people." But this hubris is not conducive for vulnerability. We are not good at admitting fault. All this serves to create distance, fear and distrust.

We also need to assume the best of each other. A successful community requires a foundation of goodwill. We must engage with people in a way that allows everyone to fail and learn, while recognizing that the onus of explaining and educating falls on the same groups of people all too often. This is hard to balance, but not impossible. Rebuilding the trust between students, faculty and the administration starts with recognizing that many in our community face challenges to their identity, and sometimes humanity.

It also means problematic ideas should be confronted accordingly and not indicted as malice. Similarly, systems and institutions should not be confused with individuals. We as students can criticize the administration and faculty, while simultaneously acknowledging individual administrators and professors who are serving our best interests. We all can stand to be more sensitive and patient as we look to make our campus an example of unity, equity and kinship.

All members of the Middlebury community — including the 638 new freshmen we are welcoming this fall — should believe in each other's goodness and be dangerously vulnerable. In the past, The Campus has used its position of relative power in ways that have alienated fellow members of our community. We pledge to better use our platform to amplify the voices of those who have been speaking up about injustice at Middlebury all along — such as the AFC and cultural organizations.

Certain student leaders have stressed, time and time again, the importance of refusing to shy away from the effects of division and inequity at Middlebury. We need to learn and build from the mistakes of last year. We will undoubtedly make more, but with commitment, this year can be one of growth for our community.

I COVER THE WATERFRONT

On This Column

By WILL DIGRAVIO
Managing Editor

Take a course with John Bertolini, and you will undoubtedly encounter the T. S. Eliot phrase, "mature poets steal."

Though I am certainly not a poet, and hardly mature, I had Eliot's observation on my mind when I chose the title of this (hopefully) weekly column.

I spent the summer trying to think of a witty and original title. However, after weeks and weeks of failure, I decided to take Eliot's advice and, simply, steal. In fact, the title, "I Cover the Waterfront," has a history of being stolen.

I stole it from Fran Lebowitz, who wrote a column with the same name for Andy Warhol's Interview magazine. It is one of the many things I have stolen from Fran, whose levels of cynicism, wit, and sneering I can only dream of reaching.

She stole it from a novel by Max Miller, which was adapted in 1933 into a film directed by James Cruze. Though I have not read the novel, I watched the film this summer and can report that it is not good, save a few scenes featuring Claudette Colbert.

The film tells the story of a San Diego–based journalist who, as you may have guessed, covers the waterfront. While working on a story about a fisherman who is illegally smuggling people into the country, he falls in love with his subject's daughter. I will refrain from summarizing the plot, but in the end (wait for it) the journalist gets the scoop and the girl.

The soundtrack of the film inspired a lyrical song of the same name. "I Cover the Waterfront" became a jazz standard, with many titans of the genre, including Frank Sinatra, Billie Holliday and Ella Fitzgerald, interpreting the tune.

It's pure serendipity that one title is connected to so many of the subjects I plan to write about in this column: journalism, film, jazz and sneering famous wits.

In the film adaptation of "I Cover the Waterfront," there is a homeless man who casts his fishing rod into the harbor in search of valuables. He mostly ends up reeling in trash. That is more or less what I expect to happen with my version of "I Cover the Waterfront." And that's OK. After all, a college newspaper is the perfect place for the imperfect exploration of ideas.

As my hero Fran says, "Great people talk about ideas, average people talk about things, and small people talk about wine."

After a year of writing this column, we shall see the group to which I belong.

Calling All Investigators

*This article is by **Sarah Asch**, **Miguel Espinosa**, **James Finn** and **Emma Patch**.*

Welcome back to college. As the school year ramps up, we would like to share with you an upcoming project we are really excited about. One of our many goals this year is to write long-term, in-depth pieces that look at student life on campus, in addition to our weekly coverage. In that spirit, we have already started to put together the first in a series of articles that will examine sexual assault and misconduct at Middlebury.

We believe that the conversation about sexual assault on college campuses — which is often part of our national dialogue — needs to be a larger part of our everyday life here at Midd. We believe that thoughtful journalism can change discourse within a community, and that we, as the student newspaper, have a part to play in this conversation. We are committed to putting the necessary time and energy into this reporting — to elevate voices that often remain unheard.

Over the course of the semester, we will write about different aspects of this issue. We will talk to student groups like MiddSafe and It Happens Here to learn about the organizations on campus that do work surrounding sexual assault. We will speak with the Title IX office about enforcement, and look into programs like Green Dot. Our first story, scheduled to come out next week, will cover the changes to Title IX policy Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced last Thursday.

We also hope to speak to survivors that are willing to share their stories, anonymously or otherwise. If you have story you would like to share as part of this project, or if there is a topic you would like us to cover, please do not hesitate to reach out to campus staff. We are happy to meet with you and talk you through our process if you are interested in participating.

The features team can be reached at features@middleburycampus.com.

WRITE RIGHT

Announcing Conservative Column

This year, The Campus will launch a conservative column. Hopefully, this will become a space in which contributors can challenge their peers with thoughtful opinions less commonly found on liberal college campuses like Middlebury.

This column serves students looking to serve the community with intellectually defensible ideas and provide information and insight into a conservative perspective, and not those looking for a medium for hate speech.

With boldness from the community to contribute and also read with an open mind, this column can hopefully promote empathy and thoughtful conversation on campus and destigmatize ideological differences.

For more information, email opinion@middleburycampus.com.

On DACA: Middlebury Stands with Dreamers

By MIGUEL FERNÁNDEZ

The week before heading back to college tends to be a bit frenetic for our students, tying up loose ends from the summer, going through the long list of mom's to-dos, wrapping up a job or even a romance.

Combined with the excitement, there is usually some stress in this process: What have I forgotten to pack? Who have I not said goodbye to? How hard will my classes be? Did I make enough money?

For some members of our community last week presented a kind of stress most of us will never experience. On Sept. 5, the Trump administration rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The fates of hundreds of thousands of students who enrolled in the program are now hanging in the balance.

In anticipation of the announcement, President Patton and I sent a message to the community on Sept. 1 reiterating the our unwavering commitment to providing educational opportunities to students without regard to nationality, place of birth, immigration status, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or economic status. Middlebury will support undocumented and DACA-designated students throughout their time at all of our schools and programs.

We continue to look for ways to support our students, in particular those enrolled in DACA whose status, and that of their families, will be in turmoil over the next six months. With that in mind, we have taken several steps.

With the help of the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), we are maintaining a DACA resources page that will stay up-to-date with the latest changes in immigration policy and provide useful information to our community (http://www.middlebury.edu/international/isss/daca-resources).

President Patton is penning a letter that will be signed by presidents of most of Vermont's institutions of higher education urging Congress to swiftly pass legislation to establish DACA in law and supporting the Vermont attorney general's suit against the termination of the program.

We are in the process of bringing an immigration lawyer who specializes in DACA to campus in the next few weeks to speak to students about the latest changes, their rights and what actions they and their families should take.

The dean of students office will provide letters for all impacted students affirming their good standing as students of the college, if desired.

Public Safety will not participate in immigration enforcement actions conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Our resources are limited and such enforcement is not part of their mission, duties or philosophy.

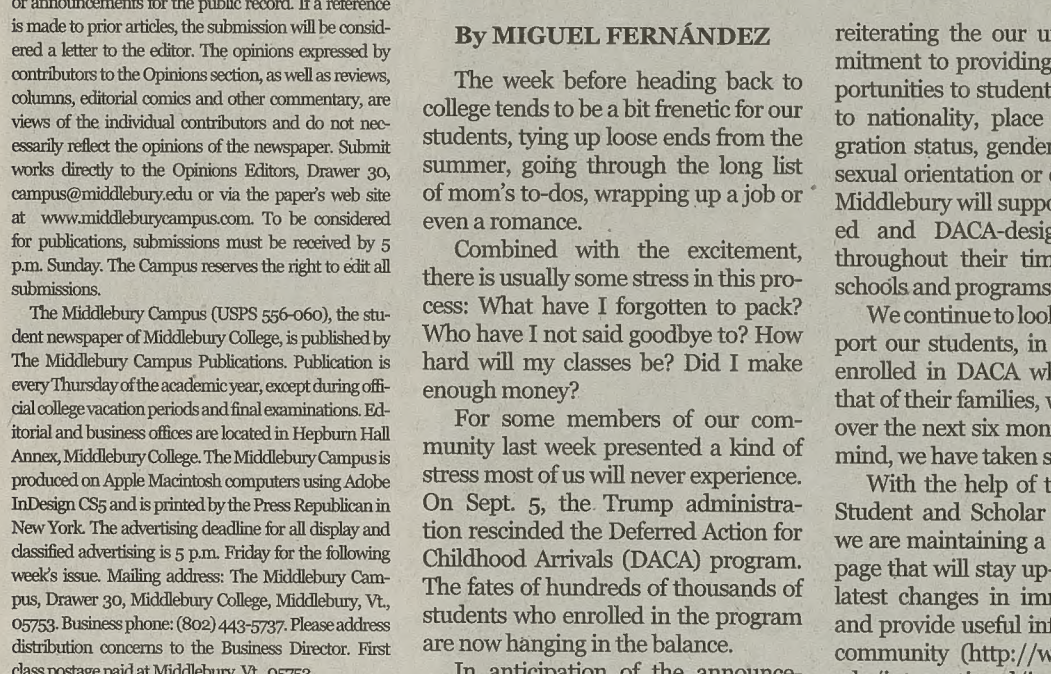
We will continue to support our DACA students financially with renewal fees and emergency grant funding for immigration-related costs, if asked.

We do not keep a list of DACA or undocumented students, and there is no current law that requires the college to share the immigration status of students. Student's immigration status is confidential, and should not be shared.

Our counseling center is available to help with issues that may arise and has after-hours support available when the office is closed. Call 802-443-5141.

Our DACA and undocumented students have been model citizens and have contributed in innumerable ways to our institution's intellectual and social community. We stand with these Dreamers and honor their commitment to improve their lives through the pursuit of higher education and employment, as well as their desire to remain in the country and the communities where they have grown up.

Miguel Fernández is the chief diversity officer at Middlebury.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The Middlebury Bike Shop and Gear Room present the annual

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Swing by for great deals on used bicycles

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Professor Conducts Summer Research Project: 'Engaging Students Across Difference'

By SARAH ASCH
Senior Features Editor

Shawna Shapiro, an associate professor of writing and linguistics, conducted a research project this summer about how students interact with each other regarding contentious subjects.

The project, called "Students Engaging Across Difference," used an online survey and in-person interviews to explore how often, and in what contexts, students have conversations with other students whose background or opinions differ from their own. Shapiro worked with two student research assistants, Jed Sass '18 and Abla Laallam '20, and all three hope that the results of their project will shape the Middlebury community going forward.

Shapiro said her goal was to better understand students' conversations with one another, in part to discover what kinds of initiatives, resources, and experiences the college could provide to promote these conversations taking place.

"I want our future actions as an institution to be informed by data, not just by our often unquestioned assumptions about what students want and need from this intellectual community," Shapiro said.

Sass added that another goal of the research was to seek out how students themselves feel about how they interact with others on campus. He cited several recent events that helped inspire this research, including Charles Murray's visit, the election and the ongoing conversation about cultural appropriation.

According to Shapiro, the results of her research both confirmed existing hunches and provided a new window into student life. She found, as she expected, that Middlebury students value conversations that involve difference of opinion over contentious subjects — 88 percent of participants marked the survey with a four or a five to indicate they found these conversations "extremely important." The study also showed that 25 percent of students participate in these conversations on a monthly basis and 48 percent do so weekly, though they found that students tend to have these difficult dialogues within their existing friend groups.

"There were also a few findings that surprised me," Shapiro said. "For example, the dining halls and residence halls are the top two locations in which students are most likely to engage in these dialogues. The classroom is number three on the list. Co-curricular talks or events were much further down."

All in all, Shapiro's research showed that lack of opportunity to engage is not the nature of the problem.

"Students feel that the conditions aren't right for genuine, thoughtful engagement," Shapiro said. "They worry about the social ramifications, for example. They feel that people aren't truly listening to one another."

Laallam agreed, saying that the failure of those on campus to listen inspired her to participate in this project as a researcher.

"Last year was my first year at Middlebury and I noticed that people do a lot of arguing and disagreeing without actually listening to each other," she said. "I wanted to investigate what led these conversations to be unproductive and maybe find a way to make those conversations better."

Laallam felt the most significant trend the research revealed was that students often want to engage with new perspectives, but that they nonetheless have trouble finding opportunities to do this.

Students "feel like those interactions are extremely important, but they all found their conversations across difference to be unproductive for the same reasons," she said.

Among those reasons, one that keeps many students from speaking up is a fear of peer criticism.

"The most widely cited reasons by the students we interviewed were that students feared judgment or criticism from their peers for voicing an opinion or belief that may be seen as controversial," Sass said, adding that many of the interviewed students described a growing unwillingness within the Middlebury community to listen to opposing perspectives.

Sass also pointed out that their research found two very different mindsets coxisting within the student body.

"We noticed a noteworthy dichotomy in students' attitudes towards engaging across difference," he said. "While many students stated their belief that engaging with different opinions has now become more important than ever, others mentioned they are less willing to tolerate opposing viewpoints."

Shapiro felt the most significant result of the research was that most students, especially students of color, do not feel heard by their peers.

"We don't just need more 'speech' — we need more listening," she said. "We did an analysis of survey responses from students of color, and those students were three times as likely as white students to feel that they weren't being heard in these conversations. A number of participants across groups admitted that they themselves sometimes tune out when they hear a perspective they find illogical or offensive."

Shapiro suggested perhaps the college needs an explicit curriculum that teaches students to listen across their differences. "Some folks in Writing Studies use the term 'rhetorical listening' to talk about this skill set — I'd love to know whether that term resonates with students," she said.

Moving forward, Shapiro would like to focus on how this problem is already being addressed.

"I'd love to know from people in our community: When, where, and how have you deepened your listening and empathy-building skills? Who and what has helped you do so? And how might we become a community that is committed not just to free speech but to deep listening?"

Laallam hopes the results of their research will help students bridge divides more often.

"People with different opinions than yours aren't your enemies. They're another source of knowledge and experiences that could contribute to your growth," she said. "Listening, empathizing and understanding can help [us] have great conversations if people were willing to set biases aside and just talk things through."

Sass added that students have power to make an impact on campus culture regarding difficult conversations.

"What stood out for us in doing this research is that students really do care about the Middlebury community and want to see it move forward in a positive direction," he said. "No matter how hard the college works towards fostering healthier dialogue on campus, the onus truly lies on the students to instill the change we wish to see from the ground up."

> ***"We did an analysis of survey responses from students of color, and those students were threee times as likely as white students to feel that they weren't being heard in these conversations."***
>
> SHAWNA SHAPIRO
> ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF WRITING LINGUISTICS

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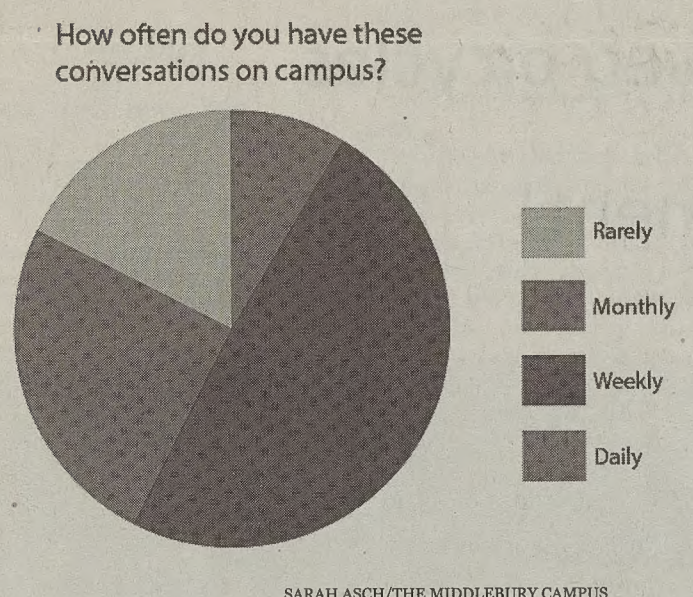
>
> JED SASS '18



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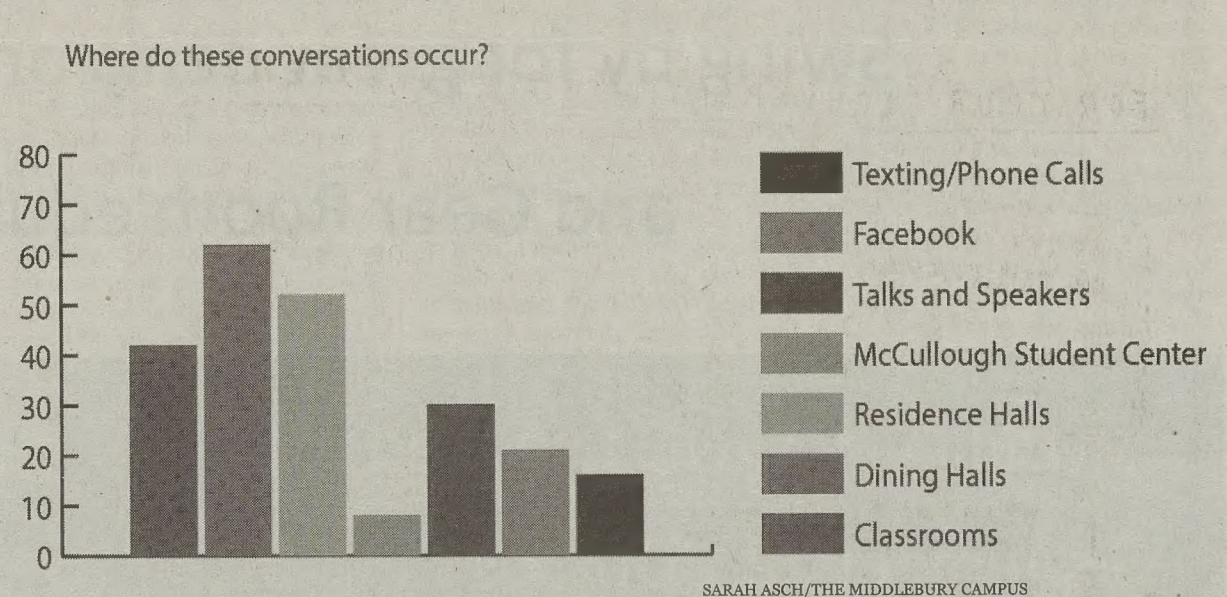


SARAH ASCH/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Walking Meditation Labyrinth to Be Installed at 'The Knoll'

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Features Editor

A new walking meditation labyrinth will be installed between Sept. 14 and Sept. 16 at The Knoll, also known as The Farm or Organic Garden. This project is a collaboration between the Scott Center for Religious Life, The Knoll and the Mindfulness Initiative.

The construction of the maze will celebrate The Knoll's 15th anniversary. Labyrinth designer and builder Lars Howlett will serve as the labyrinth's artist-in-residence, where he will share his experiences and craft.

Construction of the labyrinth will take place today from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at The Knoll. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up for 90 minute shifts, and can do so by contacting Ellen McKay, a program coordinator at the Scott Center.

The final steps for labyrinth installation will take place Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday is the official anniversary of the farm, and pizza will be served. That same evening, Havdallah (Jewish evening prayers) and a bonfire will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the same location.

"The idea for a Labyrinth matched the vision that Sophie Esser Calvi, Jay Leshinsky, and others had for The Knoll," said Mark Orten, director of the Scott Center, and dean of spiritual and religious life. "They wanted to expand use and experience of The Knoll beyond farming and things tied to the land."

According to their webpage, The Knoll's mission is to "use food as a medium to cultivate well-being in people, place, and the planet." The Knoll tries to accomplish these goals through three focus areas: The Educational Garden, Pizza Kitchen and The Serenity Garden. The Serenity Garden, collaboration with The Scott Center, is home to a large, round marble bench blessed by the Dalai Lama in 2012. The labyrinth, in celebration of the Knoll's 15th anniversary, will be added to the Serenity Garden.

"Jay Leshinsky, the farm educator, and I have always wanted a Serenity garden," said Sophie Esser Calvi '03, associate director for global food and farm programs. "When the Dalai Lama came, we knew that blessing the bench would mark the beginning of that space. We felt that a labyrinth is a symbolic way to honor the past and future of this special place."

In discussing the background and history of the labyrinth, Orten said construction of The Knoll's labyrinth was based on ancient designs from all over the world.

"There are labyrinths found in parts of the world that are quite remote and go back way before the one that is the model for what we're doing," he said, specifying that his inspiration came from an accidentally discovered labyrinth in the Chartres Cathedral in France.

"When they finally discovered what [the labyrinth] was, they pieced together that it was the final part of a journey that monastics would take for many hundreds of miles. This last part of their pilgrimage concluded with walking this labyrinth, sometimes on their knees, to the very center."

Otren clarified that a labyrinth is different from a maze.

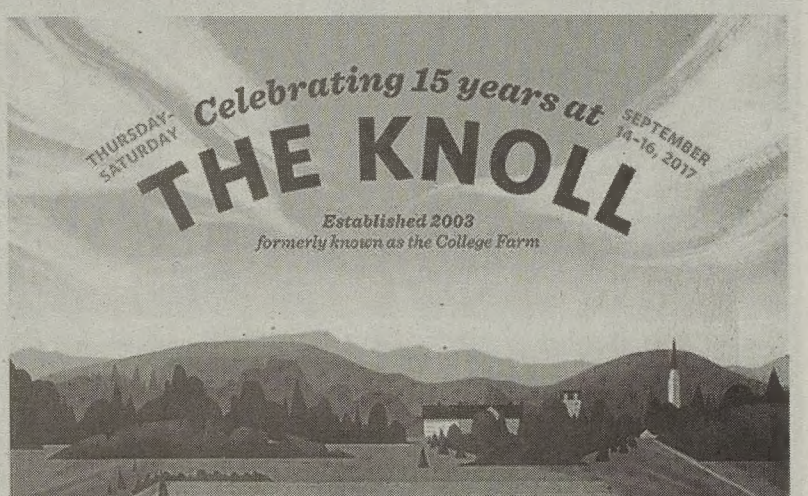
"A maze is something that requires left-brain thinking where you make decisions," he said. "A labyrinth is the opposite. It's a unicursal path to a center, or some mid-point that one takes. There are no decisions to make. It's labyrinthian. It's winding. It's back-and-forth, to and fro in a way that can actually seem disorienting if one is trying to make sense of it."

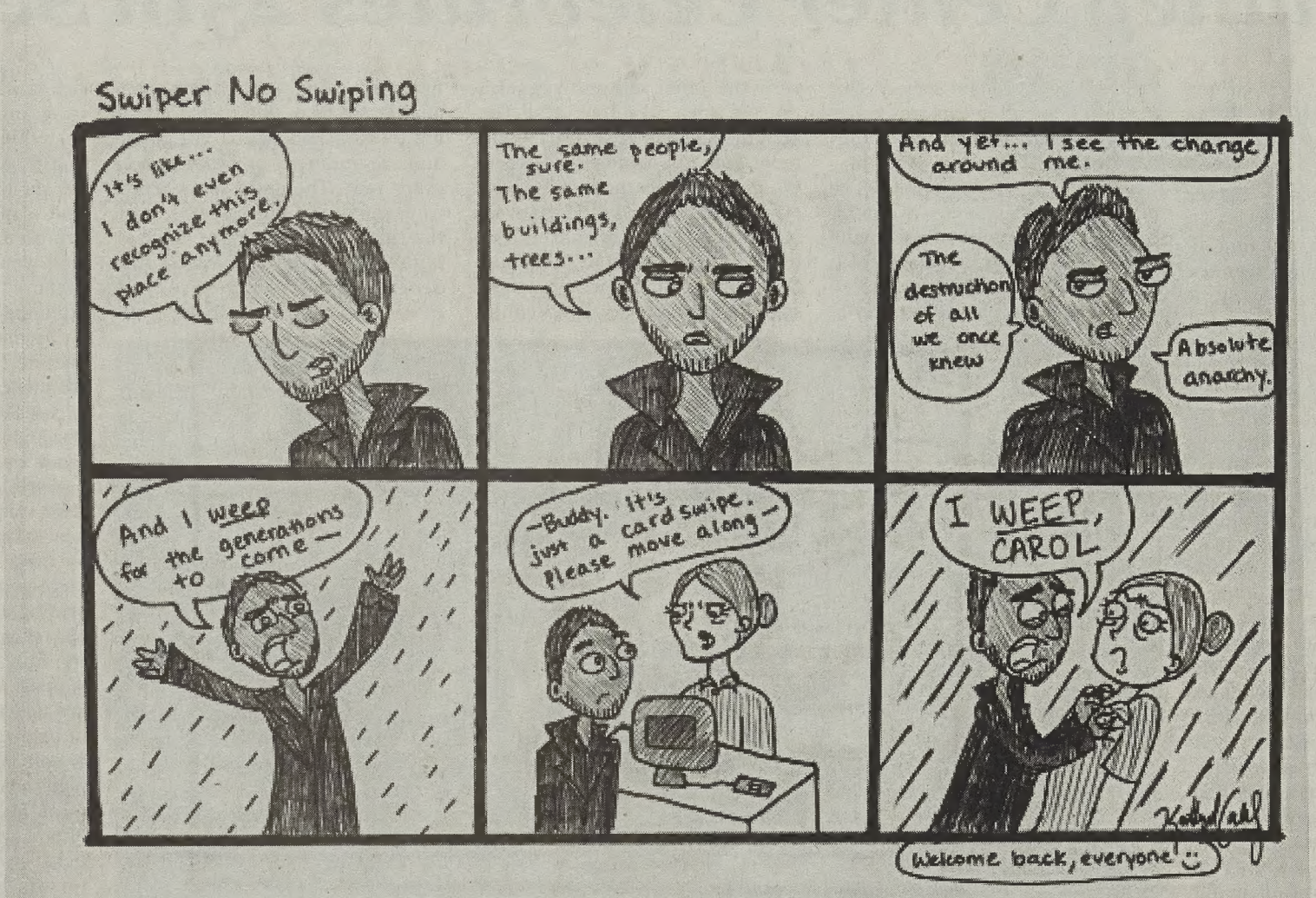
Orten added that walking a labyrinth can be a powerful experience.

"It is quite a spiritual experience to go to the center of the labyrinth and spend a period of time there, meditating on whatever it is that we've set as our intention, and then to walk the same unicursal path back out," he said. "Usually, people pause at the end of it, and turn back to the labyrinth, and give thanks or some kind of appreciation for the experience. It's profound in that the labyrinth is never walked the same way twice, no two people walk it the same way, and no person walks it the same way twice."

Esser Calvi hopes that the space provides a peaceful destination for students.

"We hope The Knoll grows as a place students can go to for refuge and restoration," she said. "It was planted 15 years ago, as a space to ground one's self. We believe that cultivating the wellbeing of one's self is essential to the wellbeing of anything else."

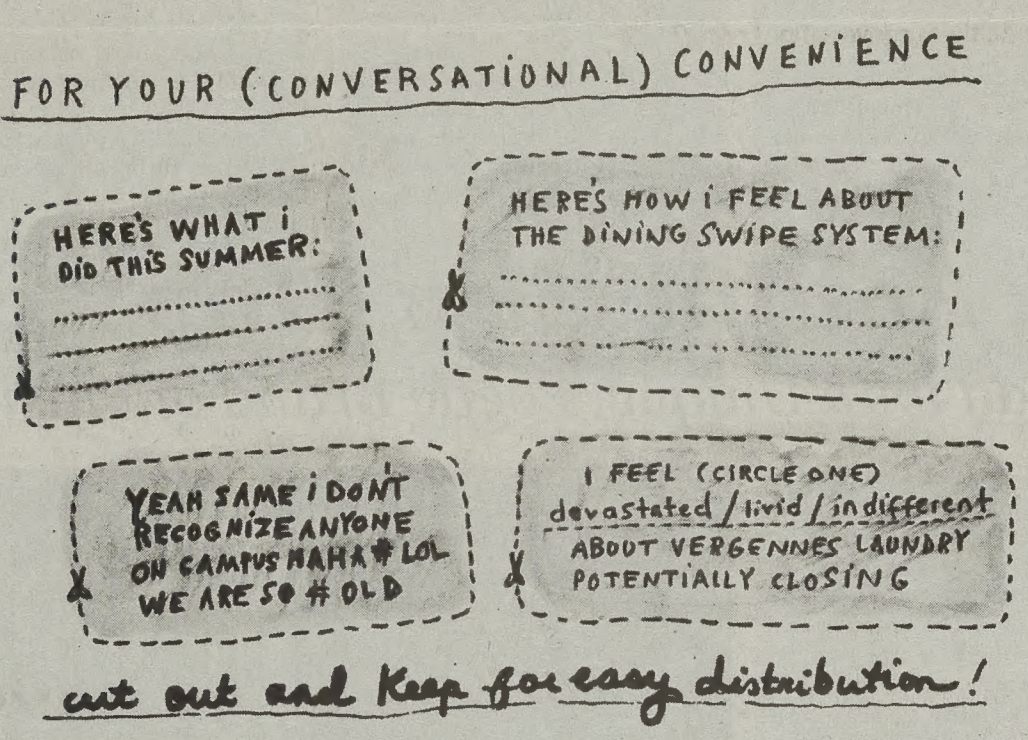

THURSDAY-SATURDAY
Celebrating 15 years at
SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2017
THE KNOLL
Established 2003
formerly known as the College Farm
Thursday, September 14
7:00 PM, Axinn 229
LABYRINTHS: CREATING SACRED SPACE
Lecture by labyrinth artist in residence Lars Howlett.
Friday, September 15
10:00 AM-5:00 PM
LABYRINTH BUILDING AT THE KNOLL
To sign up to help, contact emckay@middlebury.edu.
Saturday, September 16
15-YEAR CELEBRATION AT THE KNOLL
10:00 AM-noon · Final labyrinth installation
Noon · Celebration with wood-fired pizza
Sundown · Havdalah prayers and bonfire
Learn more at go.middlebury.edu/theknoll


Swiper No Swiping
It's like... I don't even recognize this place anymore.
The same people, sure. The same buildings, trees...
And yet... I see the change around me.
The destruction of all we once knew
Absolute anarchy.
And I weep for the generations to come—
—Buddy. It's just a card swipe. Please move along—
I WEEP, CAROL
Welcome back, everyone!

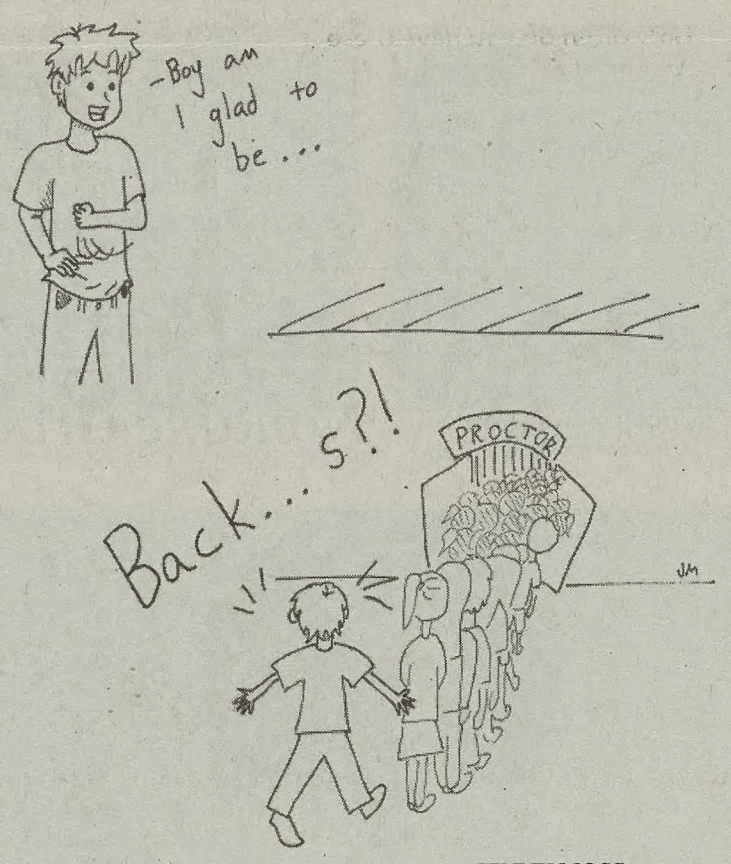
KAITLYND COLLINS

'WHAT I ACTUALLY DID THIS SUMMER' STARTER DECK
I WORKED FOR A LAW FIRM DOWNTOWN.
TRANSLATION: MY DAD GOT ME A JOB, AND THIS TIE.
FOR ME, THIS SUMMER WAS REALLY ABOUT FINDING MYSELF.
TRANSLATION: I RECENTLY PURCHASED A NEW PAIR OF CLOGS.
I TOOK A NEUROSCIENCE COURSE ONLINE AT YALE.
TRANSLATION: IT WAS 'FUNDAMENTALS OF POETRY', AND MY FINAL ESSAY WAS TAKEN STRAIGHT FROM SPARKNOTES.
I TOOK SOME TIME OFF TO FOCUS ON MY ART. PHOTOGRAPHY, MOSTLY.
TRANSLATION: I INSTAGRAMMED AN AVERAGE OF SIX TIMES A WEEK.
I INTERNED AT THE CITY HOSPITAL...SAVED A FEW LIVES.
TRANSLATION: I VOLUNTEERED AT A WALK-IN CLINIC TWO DAYS A WEEK, WATCHED GREY'S ANATOMY THE OTHER FIVE.

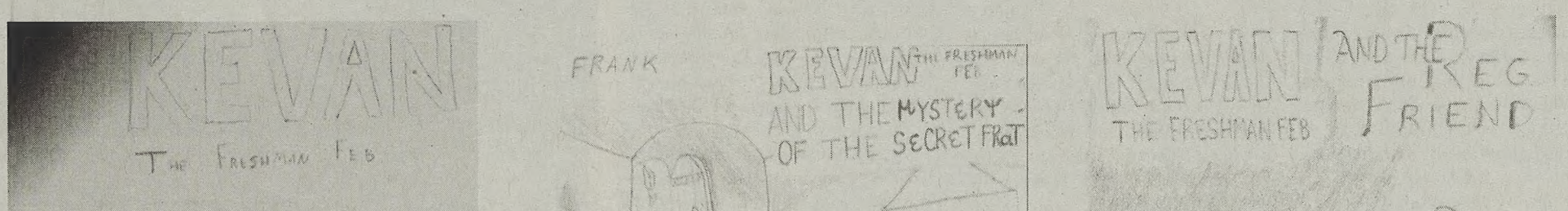
ELLIE EBERLEE


FOR YOUR (CONVERSATIONAL) CONVENIENCE
HERE'S WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER:
HERE'S HOW I FEEL ABOUT THE DINING SWIPE SYSTEM:
YEAH SAME I DONT RECOGNIZE ANYONE ON CAMPUS HAHA # LOL WE ARE SO # OLD
I FEEL (CIRCLE ONE) devastated / livid / indifferent ABOUT VERGENNES LAUNDRY POTENTIALLY CLOSING
cut out and Keep for easy distribution!

MILLIE VON PLATEN



JENNY MOSS



MICHAEL FRANK

Mahaney Center Celebrates 25th Season

This article is by A&S editors ***Finne Murphy, Sabine Poux*** *and* ***Dominick Tanoh.***

This fall, the Mahaney Center for the Arts will celebrate its 25 anniversary in style, bringing to the College an exciting schedule of events showcasing a variety of artistic disciplines. The scheduled performances, exhibits, talks, and film showings are emblematic of the MCA's vibrant history at the College and its role in connecting students to art from both within and beyond the Middlebury area.

The festivities will commence this weekend with performances from the vertical dance company BANDALOOP, which will be returning to the College after a jaw-dropping show in 2004. The company will also offer free vertical dance workshops at Virtue Field House, as well as a dance technique master class and alumni talk with artistic associate Mark Stuver '97.5. BANDALOOP's performance is the first of many must-see events that the MCA is sponsoring this season.

The Campus spoke to Liza Sacheli, director at the MCA, about her experience with and plans for the center.

EMMA STAPLETON

The Mahaney Center for the Arts will kick off its 25 anniversary season with a performance from BANDALOOP.

Middlebury Campus: In your time here, what are some of the most memorable moments or performances that you've been able to see in the MCA?

Liza Sacheli: I've been at the Mahaney Center for the Arts for 20 years now, so I've seen my fair share of memorable moments. Some of the highlights for me have been Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra; amazing string quartets like the Emerson, Tokyo, and Takács; world-class pianists Emanuel Ax, Peter Serkin, Krystian Zimerman, and Paul Lewis; theatre companies like Anne Bogart's SITI Co and the Abbey Theatre of Ireland; and more recently the Nile Project (an amazing East-Central African music/dance/environmental cooperative).

MC: In the aftermath of national and local rifts, what role do you think the MCA can play in healing in our community? What role do you think the artist can play in our society today?

LS: The arts have always been reflective of culture and society. Our programming often explores issues that are on our campus community's minds. Take last year's play "Rodney King," for example. The performer, Roger Guenveur Smith, has made a career out of portraying important figures in African American history. Rodney King came to our national consciousness as a victim of police brutality over 25 years ago, but the issue of race relations and policing is unfortunately still an issue today. The show provided a platform for conversation and exploration — many students took part — and Pulitzer winner Junot Diaz came to moderate a discussion about the show with student, faculty, and community members.

At the same time, we offer plenty of arts experiences that are a "balm" of sorts — an enjoyable, engaging performance can do so much to reduce our stress, offer us a sense of peace or pleasure, and increase our sense of connection to others in the audience and on stage.

MC: How does the MCA interact with the art scene in town? In the state of Vermont? What larger partnerships does the MCA maintain?

LS: We communicate quite a bit with the other cultural organizations in town, like Town Hall Theater, the Sheldon Museum, the Vermont Folk Life Center, and others. We have collaborated closely on events with Town Hall Theater, the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, and the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, among many others. Middlebury has a very lively cultural scene. It's all we can do to not program big events on top of one another.

The MCA also works with national organizations like the Association of Performing Arts Professionals and Americans for the Arts, the International Society of Performing Arts, and regional organizations like the New England Foundation for the Arts. Those relationships help keep us connected to the broader arts scene, and to best practices in our field.

MC: How does the MCA go about attracting talent to rural Vermont? What does the selection process for artists look like?

LS: The Mahaney Center for the Arts staff has developed strong working relationships with a network of artists, agents, and other arts centers throughout the region, nationally, and even internationally. So we hear about what artists are touring, and when. We go out and see hundreds of performances every year. There are some artists we keep an eye on for years, until the time is right to bring them to Middlebury. The Performing Arts Series has a very impressive track record at catching artists while their stars are on the rise — take Yo-Yo Ma, for example. We take lots of suggestions from faculty, students, and staff in the arts departments, and we work with them to complement their own work with the best professional artists we can "import" to campus. And once they perform at Middlebury, their experience at the MCA and with our audience is so good that they're usually happy to come back.

MC: What does the future hold for the MCA? Do you have a vision for where you'd like the MCA to be in another 25 years? Are there any upcoming programs or initiatives that you'd like to preview.

LS: We have two long term goals: First, we'd love for our Performing Arts Series to continue its nearly century-long tradition of presenting the best in classical and chamber music, but also to broaden its programming to embrace all the incredible and diverse artists the world has to offer. We would love for the diversity of our curriculum and community to be even better represented on our stages. I bet that would make the Arts at Middlebury even more attractive to students, too.

Second, access to the arts is important to us. The Mahaney Center for the Arts team continually works at breaking down the barriers of participation in the arts. We've made significant strides in physical accessibility — the MCA is one of the most physically accessible public spaces in the state of Vermont, and we offer assistive listening devices, large-print programs, and priority seating and parking. The MCA has also committed to price accessibility; fully half of the arts events we support are free, and for those that are ticketed, we keep our prices at or below that of other local/regional cultural organizations. We have held the line on $6 top ticket prices for Middlebury students, and we offer several free and discounted ticket programs for them too. But we still have work to do in terms of ensuring equal cultural access to all audiences. That may include rebalancing our program offerings to meet the community's needs and interests, removing the barriers of formality that often play out in arts events, and/or finding new ways to communicate with and welcome new audiences.

As for upcoming performances, everyone should come to the MCA's 25th anniversary kickoff with BANDALOOP, the first week of classes! This incredible company combines rock climbing technique with contemporary dance to create spectacular, perspective-bending dances. They'll perform on the side of the Mahaney Center for the Arts — suspended from the roof on ropes — on Friday September 15. The performances will coincide with the fall all-campus picnic, to be held on the MCA back lawn, and WRMC's SOSFest, featuring Noname, immediately following on the front lawn. It'll be a night to remember! All free for Midd kids. Students can also sign up to dance on the wall with BANDALOOP at go/bandaloop.

Visit the MCA's website to learn more about the upcoming events of the 2017–18 season.

S.O.S Fest Fones in Soulful Hip-Hop Act

Noname Graces Midd with Unique, Poetic Brand of Music

By DOMINICK TANOH
Arts & Sciences Editor

Noname (FKA Noname Gypsy) will serve as the headliner for this year's S.O.S Fest

*I blessed myself inside your arms one day/Swear to God there I was when the dress/ And the silver buttons fade away/ Miss Mary Mattress geriatrics, f*** me into open caskets/ I wanna die with this/ I wanna stop seeing my psychiatrist/ She said "pill pop, baby girl/ 'cause I promise you, you tweaked/ The empty bottled loneliness, this happiness you seek/ The masochism that you preach.*

Noname off the drugs/ Noname quit the weed/ Telefone delight, Love is all I need/ My honeybee red black and green, Majestic queen/ This for my homies; my umi [mother] say love/ This for my homies; my umi say love./ This for my homies; my umi say...

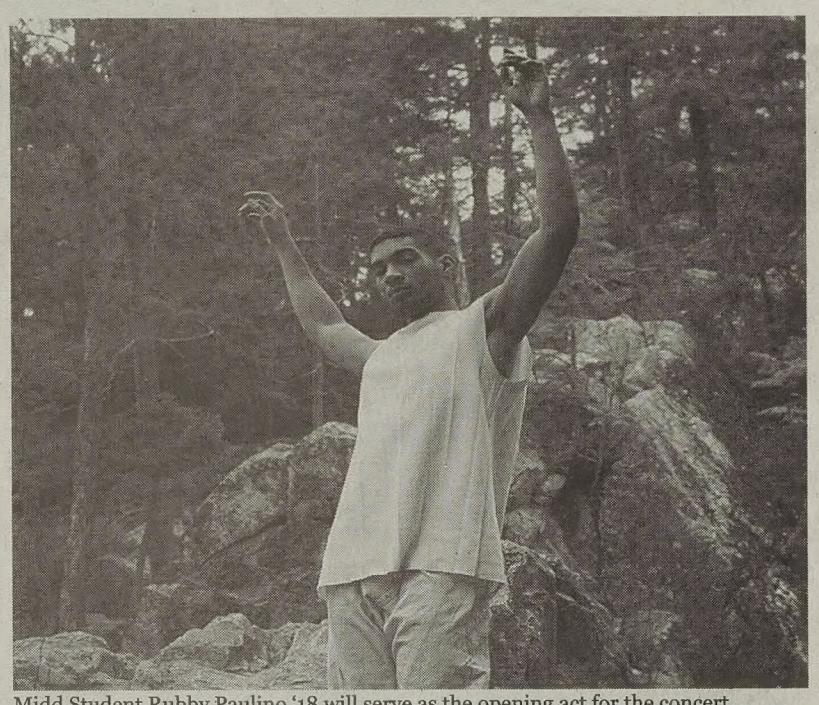
So go parts of Noname's verses on "Lost" and "All I Need", respectively. The first marks the artist's debut on Chance the Rapper's critically acclaimed mixtape *Acid Rap* while the second graces Noname's long awaited debut, *Telefone*. Both are only hints the artist's deeply personal and poetic style. The combination of silky delivery and multisyllabic soul-searching has become a hallmark of the rapper's style and preview the talent Noname will bring to Middlebury.

This Friday, September 15th, WRMC, MCAB, and the Gamut Room will welcome Noname as the headliner of S.O.S fest. The annual festival marks an unofficial welcoming for the Middlebury community and Noname's soulful and introspective compositions are sure to spread a spirit of goodwill for upcoming semester.

Coming from the musical wellspring of Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood, Noname has made a steady ascension through her hometown's music scene and into the world at large. Time in the local YOUmedia program for Young Creators offered a chance to practice the poetic cadences that would later become her hallmark. Later, guest verses on projects with lyricists like Chance the Rapper and Mick Jenkins kept her in the public eye as she prepared for her solo debut. The three year time investment proved worthwhile. *Telefone's* eventual release was met with critical acclaim, including recognition on Pitchfork's 50 best albums of 2016 and Noisey's 100 best albums of 2016. Noname represents a different side of Hip-Hop than some Middlebury students might be used to. One that is less male dominated and pleasure centric than what is currently popular noted concert organizer Jeremey Alben '18. While Noname shares a genre with high energy acts such as T-Pain or Lil Uzi Vert, her performance promises to be a more nuanced event. One that invites listeners to sit, relax, and be emotionally inspired by the beauty of the artist's work.

Before Noname's performs, Rubby Paulino '18 will take serve as the opening act. Boosted by his singles "Confiesa" and "Know Me", Rubby sets the stage for Noname's soulful renditions with his own deeply personal works. While his compositions usually use electronic instrumentation, Rubby will be supported by live instruments along with a DJ during his perfomance, adding the intimacy of the night.

SOS Fest is scheduled for this Friday at 8PM on the CFA lawn after the all school barbeque. In the company of friends, food, and talented musicians, it promises to be a truly special beginning to the fall semester. After the concert, WRMC and Women of Color will be teaming up for an afterparty at 10:30 p.m. in the Coltrane Lounge.



Midd Student Rubby Paulino '18 will serve as the opening act for the concert.

SOS Fest 2017 is co-funded and sponsered byWRMC, MCAB, and the Gamut Room.

DON'T MISS THIS

BANDALOOP

VErtical dance group, BANDALOOP, returns to Middlebury with a show that honors nature, community, and the human spirit through perspective-bending dance. The free show is expected to run approximately 15 minutes.

9/15, FRIDAY, 5:45 & 6:45 P. M., 9/16, SATURDAY, 1, 2, & 3 P.M., MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, PLAZA

S. O. S. Fest

S. O. S. Fest ("Start of School Festival") brought to you by WRMC with help from MCAB presents Noname and Rubby in a free show after the All-Student Picnic. The show promises a fun and lively way to kick off the start of the fall semester.

9/15, FRIDAY, 8 P. M., MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, FRONT LAWN

Observatory Stargazing Open House Night

The Mittelmen Observatory and Middlebury Physics will host a stargazing night, weather permitting, for Middlebury students and the general public. Viewers will have the opportunity to see Saturn and a variety of dazzling stars and nebulae through the observatory's telescope.

9/15, FRIDAY, 8 P.M., THE MITTELMAN OBSERVATORY AT MCCARDELL BICENTENNIAL HALL

Eclipse Amazes Viewers at the College

By SABINE POUX
Arts & Sciences Editor

Jonathan Kemp, telescope and scientific computing specialist at the Middlebury College Mittelman Observatory, was thrilled and surprised by the immense national popularity of the August eclipse.

"I expected a lot of interest, but I think it was even more than I expected," Kemp said. "The amount of interest and enthusiasm across the general public was quite impressive. From my perspective, it seems like for an entire day the national dialogue was changed, just a little bit, for the better to think about science, astronomy, STEM, the sun, the moon, the solar system, and our place in the universe."

Kemp and a handful of students and faculty gathered on the McCardell Bicentennial Hall rooftop on August 21 to watch the phenomenon, which reached its maximum at 2:41 p.m. when the moon covered 60 percent of the sun. The eclipse was North America's first transcontinental eclipse since 1918, and garnered significant media coverage and enthusiasm from around the country.

Kemp was careful to keep the eclipse-viewing event small, so that he could offer one-to-one guidance with each observer. He and science data librarian Wendy Shook, who helped Kemp prior to and during the event, answered questions and ensured that each viewer handled all equipment and eye protection correctly. Spectators utilized eclipse glasses, an indirect solar projection method, and a small telescope outfitted with a solar filter to securely view the sun. Some viewers brought their homemade pinhole cameras to the event as well.

Luckily, the group enjoyed a relatively unobstructed view of the eclipse, unbothered by the cloud coverage that plagued spectators' views elsewhere. They even saw sunspots on the sun's surface through the telescopes, which appeared dark in contrast with the brightness of the sun.

Shook, who has a background in physics and astronomy, was amazed by the eclipse and its power to bring people together.

"It sounds trite, but reading about eclipses and experiencing them are very different, and there is a thrill when the science you learned as a child becomes real," she said. "It becomes a shared experience that brings people together in a good way, and I think the world sorely needs experiences like these."

Despite the limited size of the event, Kemp managed to engage with members of the community through the observatory email list and the observatory website, which he updated with detailed safety protocols and other links about optimizing the eclipse-viewing experience.

Kemp also took photographs of the eclipse for the College communications department using a solar telescope mounted onto the 24-inch telescope in the observatory's dome. The solar telescope was mounted with a Hydrogen-Alpha filter, which, like all solar filters, let little enough light into the field of view so that spectators could carefully view the sun.

Kemp's photos were picked up by the College's social media feeds and various local news outlets. Interestingly, the photographs show the presence of a solar prominence, caused by a flare of gas on the sun's surface. Like the sunspots viewed through the rooftop telescopes, these prominences offered an exciting new look at the sun for the average viewer.

Kemp was excited to share his love for astronomy with the Middlebury community through the viewing event and his other outreach efforts, and believes that celestial phenomena such as solar eclipses can open people's eyes to the wonders of astronomy. Many organizations used the eclipse as an opportunity to educate, taking advantage of its enrapturing effect to pique people's interest in science.

"I think a lot of the outreach that was done by scientific organizations was centered around not just the eclipse itself but in engaging the public and schoolchildren in things like STEM activities, things that perhaps have a pedagogical aspect, to allow appreciation of the eclipse specifically and the universe more generally in a way that could stoke people's interest and enthusiasm in astronomy and in science more generally," Kemp said.

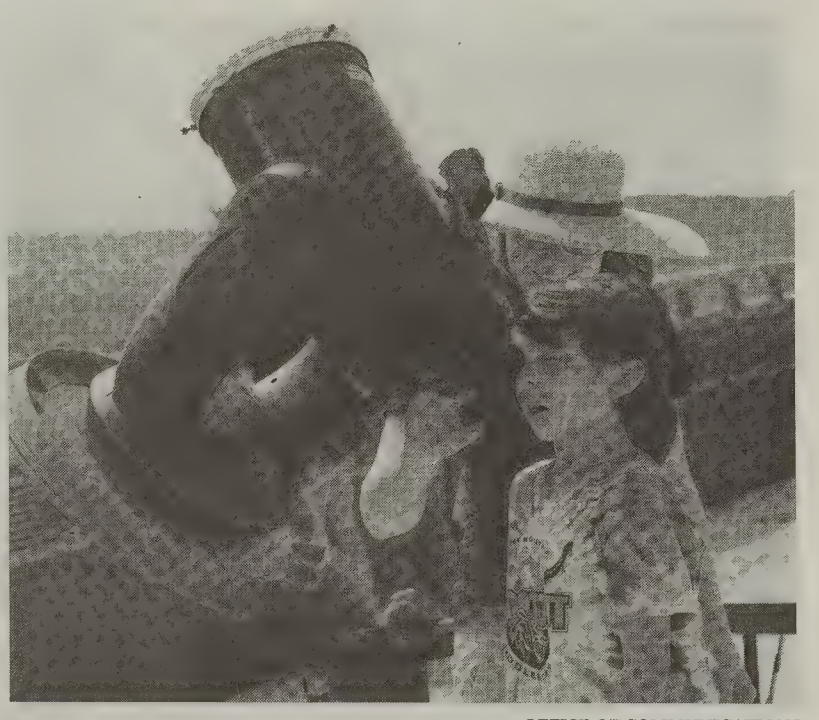
Though Vermonters witnessed a partial eclipse, viewers from several towns and cities throughout the nation saw the moon completely cover the sun. This obstruction was accompanied by a host of eerie effects, including darkening of the sky, cooling of the atmosphere, and changes in animal behavior.

Spectators often describe witnessing totality as a transformative experience.

"The astronomer at Columbia who was my mentor for many years and also my advisor in college would proudly say that he became an astronomer on the day in March, 1970, when a total solar eclipse went across the Eastern seaboard," Kemp said. "It was such a seminal event in his budding career as a scientist that it perhaps solidified his path in astronomy on the day that he experienced that total solar eclipse."

In addition to looking marvelous, total eclipses give scientists unique opportunities to study and learn things about the sun that they may otherwise not be able to witness. Scientists use total eclipses to study the sun's outer atmosphere, or solar corona, for example, which can only be seen when the brightness of the sun is completely blocked from vision by the moon.

While total solar eclipses in themselves are not rare — they take place, on average, every year and a half — they may only occur once every 400 years or so in a given location. Middlebury will be fortunate enough to witness a total solar eclipse in 2024, when a path of totality approximately 175 miles wide will make its way across the eastern half of the U.S. It will experience another — though partial — eclipse in 2045, when North America is again treated to a trans-continental eclipse.



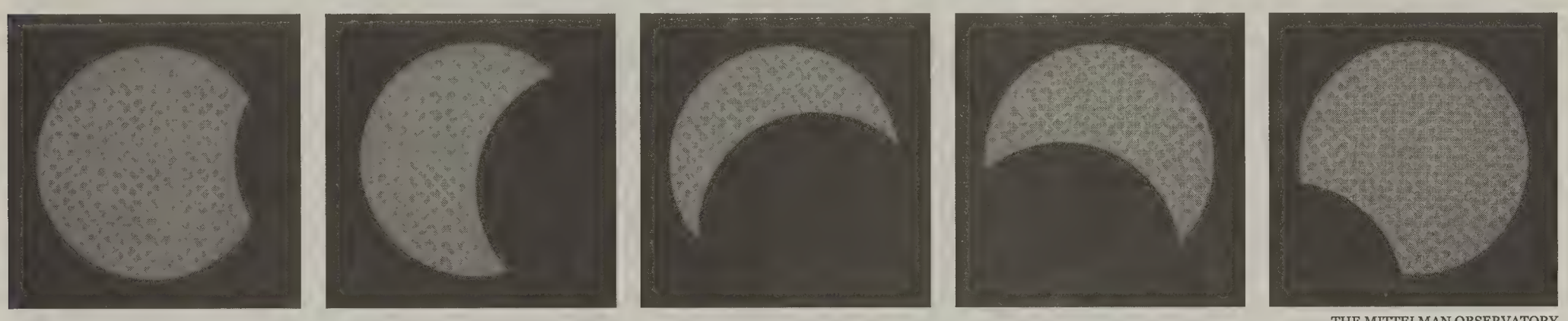
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
Wendy Shook, the College's Science Data Librarian, helped visitors safely view the sun during the eclipse viewing on the rooftop.

Until then, Kemp invites students to the observatory to enjoy the countless other celestial sights our solar system has to offer. Because the night sky changes continually throughout the year, spectators are always in for something new, whether they are observing the stars, the moon in its many phases, or even the International Space Station as it flies overhead. Kemp and his student assistants at the observatory are eager to help science majors and non-science majors alike use the large telescope at the top of the observatory, the smaller telescopes on the rooftops, and the naked eye to view the incredible sights above. They also want to provide students and members of the community with the resources they need to see the stars anytime, anywhere.

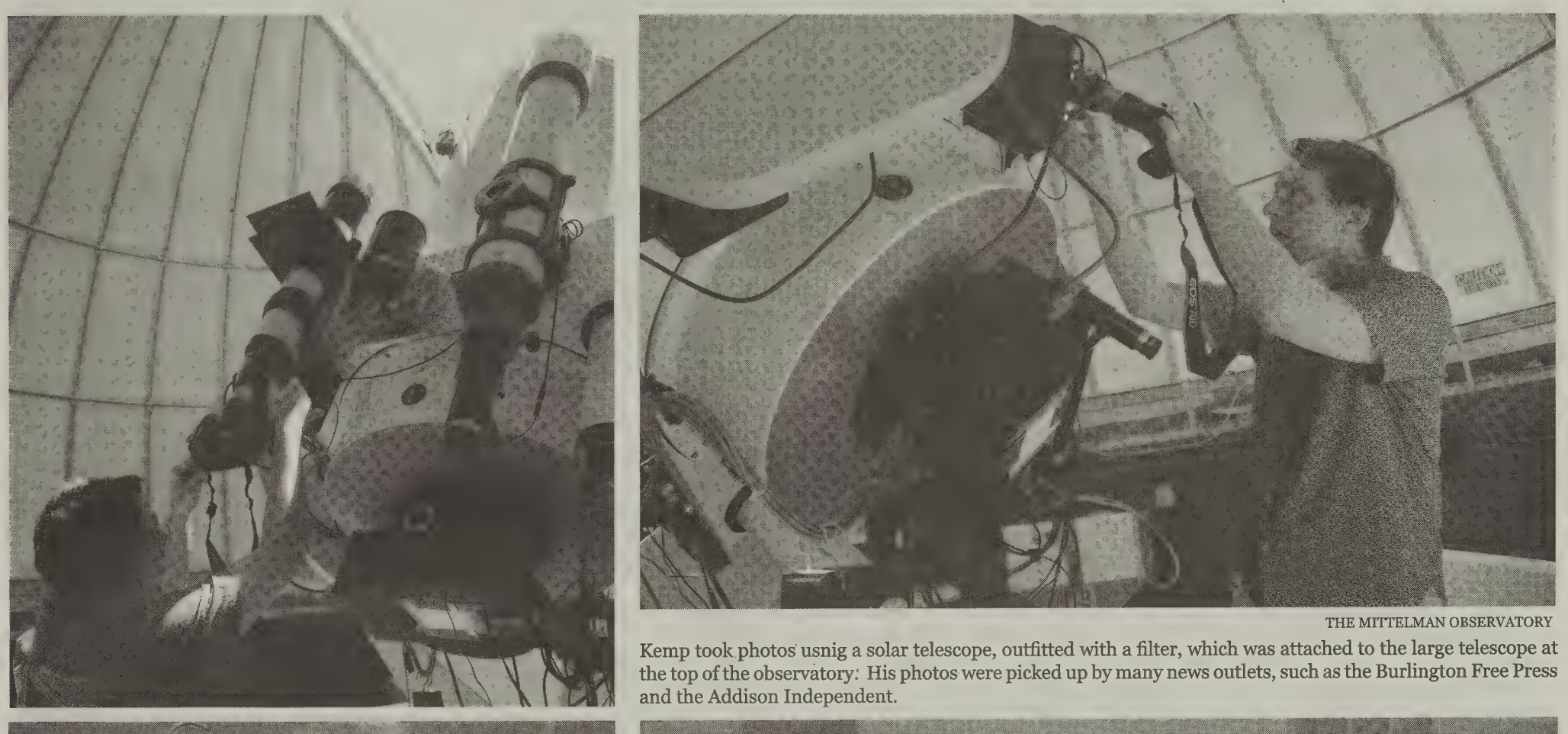
"We're pretty fortunate that here in Middlebury, despite the sometimes cloudy weather, we have fantastically dark skies," Kemp said. "We're hoping that people realize that they can go home or go back to their dorm and still enjoy the night sky. They don't have to be at the observatory."

The College additionally offers courses for students who want to extend their education about space to the classroom. Although Middlebury does not have an official astronomy department, it does offer astronomy-based courses through the physics department. Many of these courses, such as An Introduction to the Universe and Ancient Astronomy, are designed for non-majors and require use of the telescope.

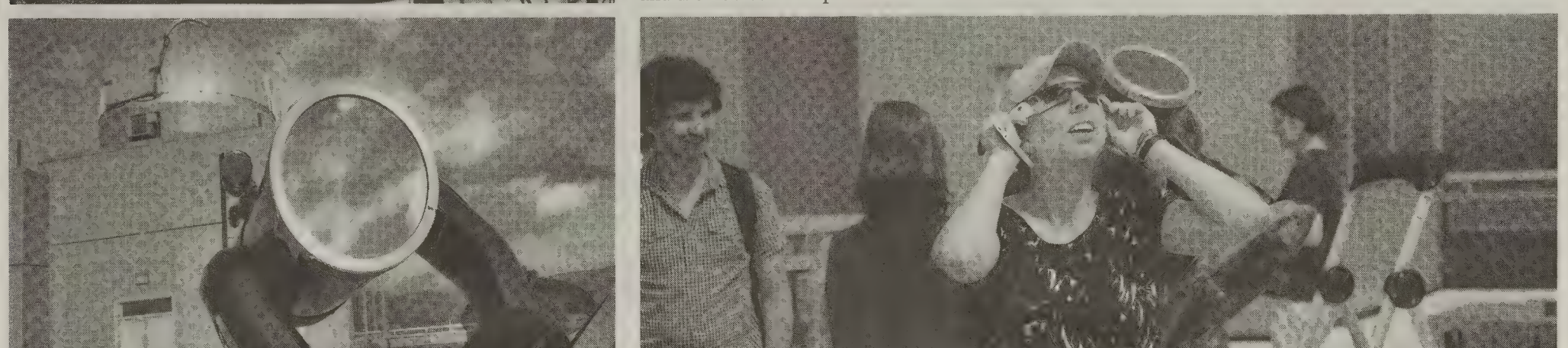
Curricular use of the telescope, Observatory Open House Nights and the eclipse viewing event in August are just some of the many ways in which Kemp and the Mittelman Observatory team have connected the community to the resources necessary to appreciate and understand astronomy. Visit go/observatory to see what events are on the observatory calendar for the fall.



THE MITTELMAN OBSERVATORY
From left to right, Kemp's photos show the eclipse at 1:35, 2:05, 2:41, 3:05, and 3:40 P.M. A solar prominence can be seen in the one o'clock position of each photo.



THE MITTELMAN OBSERVATORY
Kemp took photos usnig a solar telescope, outfitted with a filter, which was attached to the large telescope at the top of the observatory. His photos were picked up by many news outlets, such as the Burlington Free Press and the Addison Independent.



THE MITTELMAN OBSERVATORY
Kemp outfitted viewers with numerous safety devices, such as the telescope filter (left) and eclipse glasses (right). Eye protection was of the utmost importance during the eclipse.

WRITE FOR THE CAMPUS.

COVER IMPORTANT ISSUES.
HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD.

INTERESTED?
SEND US AN EMAIL US AT CAMPUS@MIDDLEBURY.EDU

What do you think is the most pressing issue at Middlebury? What could you do to address it?

Please answer on this page, tear the section off and place it in one of the corresponding boxes at the dining hall entrances!

Two for Two: Midd's NCAA Singles-Doubles Sweep, Revisited

(Continued From Page 16)

COURTESY OF COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

William de Quant '18 (left) and Lubo Cuba '19 pose with their trophies after defeating the Carthage doubles team in the NCAA Doubles final

many good results in Juniors [the individual tournaments in which high-level players compete before college]. But when I came in to the team and bought into the culture of Middlebury tennis, that's when I started hitting my stride and getting some results."

That Middlebury tennis has an exceptional team culture is beyond doubt, at least from Cuba's perspective. And he would know as well as any, having spent a season getting regular playing time for the Michigan Wolverines. He didn't miss a beat when asked to draw a comparison between his time in the Midwest and in New England.

"I think the team here is closer," Cuba offered. "We definitely do more together, on and off the court, which is great to see. And I think that definitely contributes to our success.

"Honestly, the training is pretty much the same hours — the last three days, I think we've played four hours a day. . . . I don't think at Michigan we played four hours on a Saturday."

Of course, more factored into his decision than the number of hours he'd be spending on the court. "The main reason I transferred was, first, to get that more diverse education that Midd offers," he continued; "second, to compete for national titles. And look, we got them in singles and doubles, but the team title is more important, and hopefully we can get that this year."

That "team title," the NCAA Division III Team Championship, is perhaps that to which de Quant was referring earlier, when he spoke of his confidence in Middlebury's chances every year, every weekend, every time they take the court. As a team, the Panthers have qualified for the NCAA tournament for the past 16 years in a row, winning it all twice and finishing within the top four in each of the last four seasons. Their coach, Bob Hansen, has accrued the most DIII team championships in the history of the sport between his time at Middlebury and at the University of California–Santa Cruz.

"The main reason I transferred was, first, to get that more diverse education that Midd offers; second, to compete for national titles."

LUBO CUBA '19

So it's hardly surprising that the Panthers expect themselves to be there every year, and that they're not fully satisfied with anything less. It's hardly arrogant for Cuba and de Quant to feel at least some disappointment on account of the team's semifinal loss to Claremont-Mudd-Scripps (CMS for short), even though the two brought home their fair share of NCAA titles.

Nevertheless, excellent players handle both victory and defeat with aplomb.

"Coach Hansen always likes to remind us," de Quant said, "there's a difference between winning a national championship, and being a championship team. Last year, we were a championship team, which we weren't expected to be for a while. So last year was very difficult. We didn't achieve the ultimate goal of winning an NCAA team championship, but a lot of guys, a *lot* of guys made big jumps, and there were a lot of individual highlights.

"I think that we should still kind of be proud of the work we put in," he concluded, as if genuinely worried that he ought to think otherwise.

"Having Lubo come in from Michigan and, in his first year at Middlebury, do what he did? It's a testament to the year that we had as a team, as a group, because he wouldn't have been able to do it without everyone else's effort pushing him and making sure that he continued to play well, too. . . . It was a tough ending, losing that NCAA championship and the Nescac championship, but there were still a lot of really good things to say about the year."

The game of tennis requires an extraordinary amount of concentration and precision, at a very quick pace, over the course of a match that can stretch out for quite some time. As a general rule, letting one's focus slip is detrimental. Wasting time focusing on the wrong thing almost always proves fatal. Given how Cuba and de Quant bounced back from the team's postseason losses — to Bowdoin in the Nescac finals in early May, and to CMS in the NCAA tournament — it's hardly shocking that the pair already had some experience dealing with adversity during the regular season.

Cuba described the pair's even-handedness with an appropriately casual affect. "I think that was one good thing that we did," he said of the team's brief mid-season woes, "we never looked too far ahead. You know, when we had that rough patch, we kind of just said, 'Oh, let's go get a top-four ranking so we can make the tournament.'

"And then once we got in the tournament, in the first round we were down a set, and we were like 'Let's just get through this first round.' It was just little by little, and then we were in the finals and we played what I think was our best match yet."

When pressed to elaborate on the details of those setbacks, Cuba turned to de Quant with a wry smile.

"You talk about Nescacs," he said, with an air of deferral.

"I wonder why you'd say that," de Quant fired back.

Cuba shrugged. His expression became serious, even sympathetic.

"Well, you lived it the most."

Some background: The year prior, Middlebury and Bowdoin had faced off in the Nescac championship. Although Middlebury came away with the conference title, the Polar Bears had the last laugh when they defeated the Panthers in the 2016 NCAA championship, 5–0. But Middlebury had been victorious in their 2017 regular-season matchup; as the Nescac finals approached, both teams were bracing themselves for a hard-fought contest.

With good reason. Recalling how the match played out, de Quant didn't mince his words. "We lost 5–4. Last match on, at 4-all — I was actually playing the last match on at No. 2 singles. Split one set apiece. And literally, the last set to decide the match in the Nescac final, it just went his way.

"I didn't play that well in that last set. He played well. He was solid; he's a very good player. That's just kind of the way things turn out sometimes. It was gut-wrenching, because you have your team on the side, cheering you on, you have their expectations and their hopes riding on you, right? So I think that for me, that was tough — losing that, feeling like I dropped the ball for the team."

"I was just unbelievably happy. I was over the moon, because I had finally won something big. And kind of proven to myself that I was capable of doing something like that."

WILL DE QUANT '18

Then, as though he were correcting himself: "I don't think we read too much into that."

Cuba knew exactly where his partner was going. "No," he picked up, "I mean, we rebounded fine, the team got through regional NCAAs pretty comfortably. And honestly, even the match we lost in the semis against CMS, I still think was under control. We were up 3–0 after doubles, and every match we lost in singles. I lost with five in the third, we had a couple people lose with six in the third, 7–6, 7–6. I mean, every match was tight, it could've gone either way.

"Unfortunately, it didn't go our way that day."

You might wonder how Cuba can call a match that he lost "under control." But he's a little more qualified than most players to say so, given how many of his matches *do* go his way. Of the 32 singles matches he played to the finish last season, Cuba only lost three. He was only slightly less consistent playing doubles with de Quant, dropping a whopping six out of 30 matches.

So when a player of Cuba's stature says he's got things "under control," opponents would do well to take note. Nikolai Parodi, the No. 1 singles player for CMS whose win over Cuba in that NCAA semifinal helped bounce the Panthers from the tournament, found out the hard way a few days later how scary Cuba can be when things are going his way. To say that the then-sophomore cruised his way to the finals would be an understatement: he didn't drop *a single set* en route. And when he met Parodi in the championship match with a chance for revenge, well, those who were hoping for something resembling their last encounter were sorely disappointed.

"I don't know, just that match point when we won it — I was just a lot happier after the doubles one"

LUBO CUBA '19

Perhaps his own post-match reaction would speak to how effortless the victory was for Cuba. "For singles," he recalled hesitantly, "obviously I was super happy that I won, but I don't think I really showed it — as much as I maybe should have?"

A better explanation: "He won his match in 37 minutes," de Quant broke in. "He didn't show that much emotion because it was 6–1, 5–1." If there was traffic in Chattanooga, you might've missed the match entirely.

"It was a good week," Cuba admitted, sheepishly.

But for some reason, the doubles final a few hours later garnered a different reaction from Cuba. "I just felt a lot happier to win doubles — maybe because I had you on the court also with me," he said, turning to de Quant. "And . . . I don't know, just that match point when we won it — I was just a lot happier after the doubles one."

"I think ending the season the way we did, getting those two championships, really set the tone for this next year."

WILL DE QUANT '18

It wouldn't be out of the question. De Quant admitted to being pretty emotional himself, for a number of reasons. Obviously, as the consummate teammate, part of it was the joy of watching Cuba succeed alongside him with the knowledge that he'd helped him to get there. But part of it had to do with de Quant's own tennis history.

"It was very special for me because my parents were there," he began. "I've played a lot of tennis for a long time, and my parents have always been very, very invested. . . . And it's always been kind of a difficult road. I never did *that* well.

"And so for them to. . . ." He stopped. "I was just unbelievably happy. I was over the moon, because I had finally won something *big*. And kind of proven to myself that I was capable of doing something like that.

"So for my parents to be there," he went on, the words coming more easily, "sharing that moment with them was very special, and that made it extra-special for me. And having Bob [Hansen] there as well, patting me on the back and telling me, 'This was not a surprise to me whatsoever' — well, it was really a bit of a surprise to me when it happened.

"Going in," he summarized, "we knew that there was kind of a chance for us to make history with Middlebury never having won an individual title before. We wanted to do that not just for us, but for the program, and for Bob, who had tried so hard and put so much work into the program. He really wanted it as well, so it was also for him."

Hansen is entering his seventh season as the Middlebury head coach. To hear his players talk about him, you'd imagine he's the sort of man they'll be telling their grandchildren about.

At times, the stories of his commitment and dedication border on the comical. "The man could talk for five hours straight about tennis," said de Quant with a chuckle before quickly adding, "which is a good thing."

Cuba jumped right in with a grin. "He'll tell us before practice that he couldn't sleep last night because he was thinking too much about the direction the team's heading — always just to better the team, whatever it takes to get us better, he's always thinking about us first."

But as the two went on, the impact Hansen has had on them became even more eminently apparent. "You can take the No. 14 guy on the team, technically the worst player on the team, put him on the bottom court against some other player. You could have the best two players on the team playing on the first court, and Bob will go up to the guy, the No. 14 guy, and sit him down and talk to him about his game. He'll have watched a lot of the match, he'll have comments, he'll have feedback on how to build his game. I mean, he cares about every one of the guys, and he is so invested in everyone's growth.

"And he doesn't just recruit good tennis players — he wants to recruit someone that he knows will bind to the culture and that he can teach and that he can help grow. He's spent decades being a leader and a father figure for college guys, and he really cares about us. . . . I don't know if it hurt him or us more when we lost that match in the NCAA semifinals, because he cares so much about the guys — I've never seen anyone as passionate about tennis and the team as he is."

Cuba hardly remembered his own reaction after his singles title, but he certainly remembered his coach's. "It was funny," he said; "I told him before the match that I really wanted one of those NCAA hats that they were selling. And he was like, 'If you win, I'll buy you one.'

"And the first thing when I saw him after the match, he had bought me the hat. And he was just as happy as I was."

It's hard not to expect success with a man such as Hansen at the helm; with the reigning singles and doubles champions on the team in Cuba and de Quant, it's nearly impossible. But the players don't need anyone else to tell them that they're capable of capturing the NCAA team championship. They can visualize it for themselves.

"I think ending the season the way we did," said de Quant, "getting those two championships, really set the tone for this next year. They're obviously individual successes, but having Lubo set his mark the way he did in singles —"

With impeccable timing, Cuba jumped in to correct him: "The fact that we're both returning players on top of our recruiting class... On top of getting Noah [Farrell, an extremely talented player in his own right who took the 2016–2017 season off] back, I think this is the year to win it."

"We've been close, every time," de Quant enunciated, "with Noah, and with Lubo, and having the class that we have, we're going to have all the pieces this year to take it to the house. We'll keep our heads down and work as much as we can, and hopefully the pieces fall in the right way."

Smart money wouldn't bet on them falling any differently.

Middlebury Football Poised for Another Competitive Season

By PETER LINDHOLM
Managing Editor, Nothing But NESCAC

Offensive MVP:
QB Jared Lebowitz '18

Admittedly this is kind of a Chris Broussard take, but there may be no player in the league more important to their team than Lebowitz is to the Panthers. The entire Middlebury offense is designed around his ability to throw darts all over the field. The rest of the league has caught to them, but Middlebury is still the leader in no-huddle throughout the league. That can't happen without Lebowitz. However, he "only" competed 57% of his passes last year, and threw 12 interceptions in eight games. Of course, he also threw 29 touchdowns, so these complaints are nitpicking to a certain extent. But for Middlebury to really compete with Trinity (and most likely Amherst this year), Lebowitz will have to bring his game up still another notch. And the graduation of receivers James Burke and Ryan Rizzo, as well as several key offensive linemen, will make his job harder than ever.

Defensive MVP:
LB John Jackson '18

Middlebury has lost a lot of talent in a lot of places this off-season, and linebacker is certainly one of them. This is almost entirely due to Addison Pierce '17. Pierce was a terrific linebacker, leading the team in tackles with 62, but his influence on the team was wider than that. He was a leader, and many players on the team, offensive and defensive alike, have mentioned that he will be missed. However, luckily for the Panthers and their fans, John Jackson is still around to pick up the slack. Jackson uses tremendous speed and agility to be a menace in the backfield, picking up 7.5 sacks last season. He's also effective in coverage, picking up one interception and several deflections. He picked up 41 tackles as well, despite Pierce's presence. He will certainly get more chances to eat up opposing running backs this season.

Player to Watch:
WR Tanner Contois '18

The Panther receiving corps was among the best in the league last season, and that was with Contois missing pretty much the entire season with a knee injury. Now that James Burke and Ryan Rizzo graduated, the Panthers are in need of another threat at receiver. Conrado Banky '19 might well be the best in the league, but teams are going to double and even triple team him every chance they get. Contois has been very impressive in camp thus far, and looks fully recovered in terms of speed and quickness. If he and lanky deep threat Jimmy Martinez '19 can be weapons, teams won't be able to key in on Banky, and the Panther offense will keep right on rolling.

Key Game:
October 28 vs. Trinity

Middlebury lucks out this year and gets to play Trinity at home. As Colby pointed out in his preview, Trinity was the league champion last year and brings back nearly every key contributor, especially on offense. Therefore, they are the odds on favorite to win this season. If Middlebury has any hope of taking the crown, they will need to take care of the Bantams.

Summary:

The Panthers spent much of last season in a three way tie with Tufts and Trinity for the top spot in the league. However, they lost handily to both those teams, and Wesleyan climbed into the mix. By the end of the year it was clear that they were a step away from contending with those powerhouses, and Middlebury ended with a slightly disappointing fourth place finish. Now star quarterback Reece Foy '18 has returned to Amherst after missing all of last season with a knee injury, so the Mammoths seem poised to take their spot back in the upper tier. Additionally, the Panthers had one of the largest departing classes in the league, both in numbers and in talent. Middlebury has their work cut out for them if they want to improve on their 6–2 mark from 2016. But they certainly have the talent returning to it.

The Panthers' biggest losses are definitely on offense. For most of the last decade, Middlebury's philosophy has been to air it out, and with good reason. Coach Ritter certainly has earned the right to call himself a quarterback guru, with Don Mckillop, McCallum Foote and Matt Milano all earning all-Nescac nods under him. Jared Lebowitz '18 has the talent to be the best one yet, and put up a mostly-stellar season last year. This was due in large part, however, to most talented receiving class in the league. Phenom Conrado Banky '19 earned an all-Nescac First Team nod, James Burke '17 landed on the Second Team, and Ryan Rizzo '17 offered a dynamic third option and also excelled as a return man. Only Banky remains from that group. Unless young receivers like Jimmy Martinez '19 can step up, Middlebury might need to balance their offense more than in years past. Running back Diego Meritus '20 showed flashes of excellence last year, and should be ready to explode in his junior year with a heavier workload.

Lebowitz's job will also be made more difficult by a young offensive line. Senior leaders like Andy Klarman provided needed stability to a unit that struggled at times last season, and there is still uncertainty about who will fill those spots. Lebowitz showed himself to be prone to rushed decisions at times last year, and a shaky offensive line could only exacerbate that problem.

The defense mostly returns, with a few notable exceptions. DB Nate Leedy and LB Addison Pierce provided stability and toughness to a unit that was otherwise very young, and they both graduated. Leadership responsibilities now fall largely on the shoulders of LB John Jackson '18, and anyone else who steps up throughout the year. However, for all that leadership Middlebury still gave up 48 points to Tufts and 49 to Trinity. The defense will have to improve a great deal for the Panthers to remain one of the elite Nescac programs. Middlebury lost a lot in the off-season, but that could give several youngsters a chance to step up. Hopefully they continue their high level of play and Amherst returns to glory, giving us a real five way race at the top of the league.

Nothing but NESCAC is a student-run blog that provides Nescac sports with in-depth analysis usually reserved for Division One athletics. It grew out of PantherNation, a Middlebury-centric blog run by Damon Hathaway '13 and Jeff Hetzel '13. When Joe Macdonald '16 and Bowdoin student Adam Lamont '16 took over, they expanded coverage to include baseball and brought in writers from almost every Nescac school. More recently, co-editors Rory Ziomek '17 (Tufts) and Peter Lindholm '17.5 have added women's soccer and basketball. With coverage, feature articles and a strong social media presence (@CACSportsBlog on Twitter, Instagram coming soon) Nothing but Nescac strives to be a sports blog that serves the entire NESCAC community.

BY THE NUMB3RS

73 *Career-low scoring rounds for women's golf duo Katharine Fortin '18 and Chloe Levins '20 in last weekend's invitational.*

Approximately how many days are left in the school year. **255**

109 *Minute when men's soccer player Daniel O'Grady '19 scored the game-winner over Colby-Sawyer last Sunday.*

Ranking in the polls for field hockey. It may be a new year, but the Panthers' dominant ways never change. **4**

Field Hockey Comes Out of the Gates Ready to Go

By CLAIRE MESSERSMITH
Senior Writer

After cruising to a 12–1 victory over Castleton to open the season last Wednesday, Sept. 6, the Middlebury Women's Field Hockey team is off to a 2–0 start in what is looking to be a promising season. The team pulled out a 4–1 win over Conn. College on Sunday, Sept. 10, to keep the momentum going.

Middlebury took the 1–0 lead about 16 minutes into the game when Molly Freeman '19 tipped in a shot from Lauren Schweppe '18 on a penalty corner.

Conn. College tied the game at 1–1 10 minutes later, but Freeman answered right back with a goal right before the end of the first half. Middlebury lead 2–1 as time expired.

Freeman commented on the team's momentum coming into the upcoming season:

"I think after having 2 games, we're really beginning to adjust to our new formation, and seeing what works and doesn't work for us."

The Panthers started the second half by pushing the lead to 3–1 when Grace Jennings '19 stopped the ball for a shot by Annie Leonard '18. That marked Leonard's third goal of the season and the impressive 60th of her career.

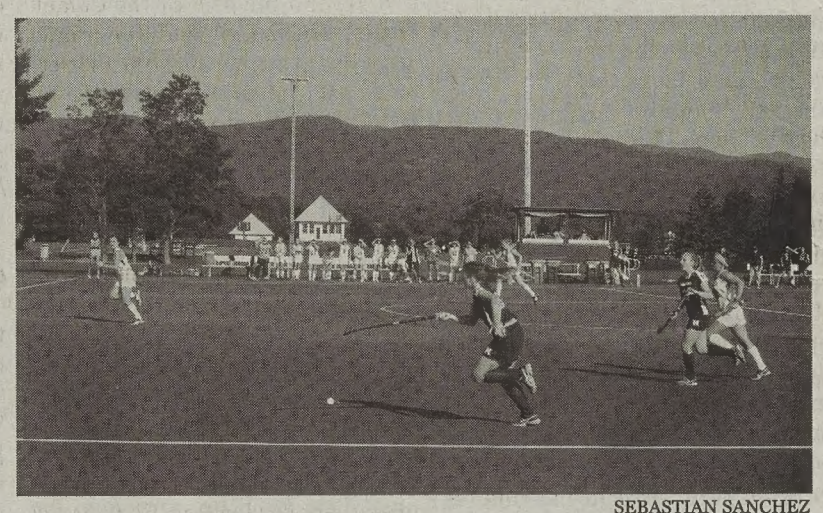
Leonard's 60th career goal ties her with Reid Berrien '08 for third all-time on the Middlebury goals list.

The Panthers then finished off the game with a fourth goal 50 minutes into the game, with a shot from Erin Nicholas '21.

Middlebury outshot the Camels 20–5.

"We have a really deep team this year and also a really high energy level throughout the game," Freeman said. "It allows us to dictate the tempo and work with a lot of different people on the field so far."

Middlebury hits the field again this weekend with a double header, first away on Saturday Sept. 16 at Amherst and back home on Sunday, Sept. 17, against Hamilton to complete the weekend, at 11 a.m. on Kohn Field.



SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ
Grace Jennings '19 attacks with the ball down the left side in Middlebury's 4-1 win over Connecticut College.

Cross Country Stays Undefeated

By JORDAN HOWELL
Staff Writer

Getting better and using experience as an advantage is all a part of the strategy for the men's and women's cross country teams this fall. After the men's team finished 26th and the women's team crossed the line a collective 14th at NCAAs last year, both teams are looking to revamp and to get the ball rolling for the new season.

The new captains for the men's team are Ascencion Aispuro '18 and Kevin Serrao '18. Aispuro had several impressive outings last year. Notable mentions include coming in 13th in a field of 241 runners at the Conn. College Invitational and coming in 18th in a field of 348 runners at the NCAA Regionals last year.

Last year, Serrao also had an impressive outing at the Connecticut College Invitational where he came in 26th-place. With the drive to give it their all during their meets, these captains will be great role models in terms of leadership and mentorship for the new and returning members of the team. Throughout the season, it will also be crucial to watch the growth of the team's five first-year runners.

On the women's side, the new captain is Read Allen '18. Allen had three impactful outings during last year's season. The first would be when she came in first place out of eighty runners at the Vermont State meet. The second was when she finished 25th in the 259-runner competition at the Conn, College Invitational. The third was her 29th-place finish at Nescacs. Allen's leadership will be on full display this season as she motivates a team filed with varying experience levels, especially the seven new freshmen who joined the team.

The Panthers have recently shown their renewed focus at the Vermont Tech Invitational on Sept. 9. The women faced off against Southern New Hampshire University and Vermont Tech. The men faced off against those same two schools as well as Augusta. Both teams came in first at their respective meets.

The men won the four team meet with a score of twenty points. The top two runners for the team were Miles Meijor '19, who came in second with a time of 27:14, and Theo Henderson '20, who came in third with a time of 27:16. The women won their three team meet with a score of twenty five. The top two runners for the team were Talia Ruxin '20, who came in second with a time of 19:19 and Katherine MacCary '19, who came in third with a time of 19:24.

With a substantial amount of the season left, the Panthers have a lot of time to continue refining their skills in training. By putting in time and effort, the Panthers will hopefully surpass their current predicted rankings set by the NCAA. Both teams will look to continue their winning on Saturday, Sept. 16 at the Aldrich Invitational.

Volleyball Wins Two, then Loses Two

By JAKE TURTEL
Staff Writer

While the majority of Middlebury students were finishing unpacking and moving into their dorms, the volleyball team opened its 2017 season at the Union College Invitational. The Panthers started the invite strong with a straight-set win over Oneonta and a five-set nailbiter over Union, but dropped the second pair.

Middlebury started this season where it left off from last year with a straight-set victory over Oneonta (25–16, 25–17, 25–12). The Panthers started hot, going on an 8–1 run to open the weekend, and never trailed in the first two sets. They finished on a 9–2 tear to close the match. Co-captain Becca Raffel '18 had a strong opener, netting a match-high 14 kills, while co-captain Sarah Staver '19 converted 10 kills out of 11 opportunities. Gigi Alper '20 contributed 11 digs and three service aces to help Middlebury blank Oneonta.

Middlebury dominated the stat sheet, winning the hitting percentage battle (.400 to .078), and recording more blocks (6–4), digs (37–27), and aces (9–4). With a total game time of just over an hour, the Panthers made quick work of their opponent.

Middlebury also took their second match of the day, beating host Union College by a margin of three sets to two (25–19, 25–22, 23–25, 20–25, 15–13). Middlebury went up two sets to none against Union before the hosts stormed back and won the next two sets; the Panthers were able to right the ship and put their opponents away in the fifth and final set. Once again, Raffel led the way with 20 kills to go along with 14 digs, while Alper pitched in 19 digs of her own. Eliana Schaefer '18 and Isabel Sessions '19 put up a dozen kills each. Although not as efficient as their first game's mark, the Panthers once again obtained a higher hitting percentage than their opponent (.255 to .160). Both teams tied in digs with 71.

The second day, the script was flipped when the Panthers lost both matches by the same three-to-one score. The first time was against Stevens (24–26, 25–15, 26–24, 25–21). This time, Sessions led the squad in kills with 15, while Alper once again tallied a match high 19 digs. Co-captain Emily Kolodka '18 finished just behind Alper, with 18 digs of her own. Chellsa Ferdinand '20 was also a bright spot with 38 assists.

Against the College at Brockport later in the day, the Panthers fell in another tough match (25–20, 25–23, 23–25, 25–17). Continuing her dominant performance over the weekend, Raffel notched 12 each of kills and digs. When her second kill of the match hit the ground, she became the seventh Panther all-time to reach the 900-kill mark. Ferdinand finished the tournament strongly as well, contributing in every aspect (36 assists, eight digs, and three service aces). Although they couldn't come away with the win, Middlebury has reason to be optimistic. They outperformed their opponents in hitting percentage (.252 to .243), blocks (nine to six), and digs (61 to 60).

While the tournament did not end as planned, the takeaways for the team were more positive than negative. Raffel, who was named to the all-tournament team after a 64-kill, 44-dig and five-service ace performance, had good things to say.

"The team showed a lot of really positive signs this weekend," Raffel said. "Watching things come together for our first games of the season made us really excited for the season to come."

What exactly is the goal?

A "repeat Nescac championship."

The first steps come this Friday, Sept. 15, and Saturday, Sept. 16, as they travel to Amherst, Mass., to face the Mammoths, and then to New Haven, Conn., to face Trinity in their Nescac openers.

GREAT EIGHT

RANKING TEAM
Rigas' Reasoning

1 **FIELD HOCKEY**
16-2 goal differential to start the season. That's okay I suppose.

2 **CROSS COUNTRY**
Two teams, two races, two wins.

3 **WOMEN'S GOLF**
That day-one-to-day-two split is nice.

MEN'S SOCCER
4 See SportsCenter Top 10 Plays

5 **WOMEN'S SOCCER**
Tough loss, but they could've easily come out on top.

6 **MEN'S GOLF**
Can they make a run at Williams? I think so.

7 **VOLLEYBALL**
It's early. They're still gunning for the 'CAC.

8 **WILL CASE**
Questionable Eds' Picks winning percentage, that's all I'm saying.

Men's Soccer Rebounds in More Ways than One

By RILEY PLANT
Staff Writer

The Middlebury men's soccer team (2–1–0) pleased a large crowd during their first game since students returned to campus with a 2-1 win in double overtime against the visiting Colby-Sawyer Chargers (0–4–0) last Sunday, Sept. 10. Despite edging the Chargers in shots on goal 13–2, it took a late goal at the end of regulation for the Panthers to send the game into what would become a double overtime marathon in which Daniel O'Grady '19 kicked in the game-winner in the 109th minute.

Colby-Sawyer notched their only goal of the day with 20 minutes left in the first half, taking a 1–0 lead. Denali Sexton pressed hard and fast on a pass from the backline, fading towards the left side and letting a low shot fly to the opposite corner, just beyond the hands of Middlebury goalkeeper Jeremy Yeager '18. Yeager concluded his third full game with one save, bringing his season total to five.

Despite the fact that the Chargers maintained a 1–0 lead for most of regulation, Middlebury controlled the game throughout. In the 20th minute, Kye Moffat '19 missed just wide left on a header. Twelve minutes later in the 32nd minute, the crossbar would deny O'Grady the game-tying goal on a 19-yard rip.

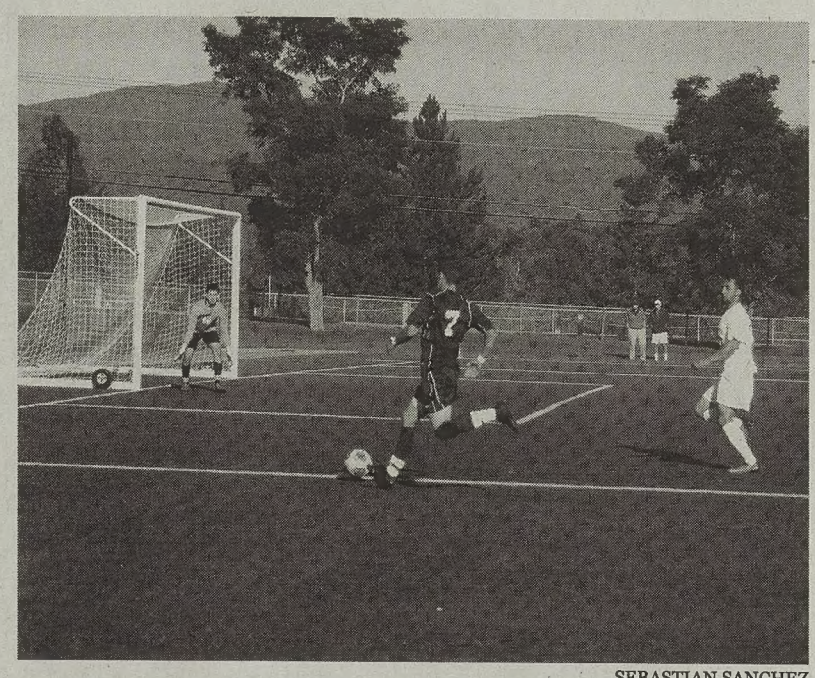
After controlling the ball for most of the second half, a scramble in the goal box in the 78th minute resulted in a shot from Goulart that threaded several defenders' legs but bounced off the right side post, forcing the team into a furious up-tempo style of play with only 12 minutes remaining on the clock and the Chargers leading by one.

Then, in the 81st minute, Peter Davis '19 headed in his first career goal following a scramble in the box on a corner kick. In the 87th minute, Middlebury nearly took the lead as O'Grady sent a header from six yards into the hands of Charger goalie Sean Babinski. The next opportunity didn't arise until the second 10-minute overtime half, when Ben Potter '20 was denied by Babinski on a one-on-one following a through ball.

With just 1:47 remaining in overtime, O'Grady collected a 70-yard pass from Henry Wilhelm '20 just outside the penalty box and moved quickly in and to the left. He punched a fast, low shot off his left foot, beating the hands of Babinski and leaving the Panthers on top.

"We feel like we have a lot of depth this year, especially in the midfield," Yeager said. "A lot of guys who are confident with the ball at their feet. We are hoping that we can use that to unlock opposing defenses and threaten in front of goal. We had a pretty big senior class graduate last year, so there are a lot of spots up for grabs. It's an opportunity for guys to step up and take advantage of the opportunity."

The non-conference win leaves the Panthers with a 2–1 record after defeating Norwich 3–1 on Wednesday, Sept. 6 and suffering a 2–1 loss to Connecticut College on Saturday, September 9. Middlebury heads to Massachusetts to face rival Amherst College (1–0–0) this Saturday, Sept. 16.



SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ
Drew Goulart '20 drives dangerously into the Colby-Sawyer box in Middlebury's 2-1 double overtime win against the Chargers.

Women's Soccer Opens Conference with Tough Loss to Camels

By ROB ERICKSON
Sports Editor

Kicking off the conference schedule at its own Dragone Field, the Middlebury women's soccer team suffered a gut-wrenching overtime loss to NESCAC foe Conn. College this past Saturday, Sept. 9. The Panthers seemed to control the pace of the game and were able to put seven shots on goal to the Camels' three, but unfortunately couldn't find the back of the net during regulation: Conn secured a 1–0 victory with a tally 6:10 into the first overtime period.

Head Coach Peter Kim had a positive take on the performance, especially given the circumstances that his squad was missing its first-year players to the weekend MiddView trips. "The team played very well," he said afterwards. "Unfortunately, we couldn't finish, hitting the crossbar three times and forcing several big saves from Conn's keeper . . . We were missing eight key players due to orientation, so we were unable to keep fresh legs in the game as much as we would have liked. We did a good job breaking Conn's defense down, but ultimately succumbed to the pressure with a brief lapse on a counterattack."

On the offensive end, forward Ellie Greenberg '20 paced the Panthers' charge, leading the team with three shots on target in four attempts. In the closing seconds of the first half, she received a through pass on a Middlebury attack and fired what seemed to be a sure score toward the right post, only to have the ball deflected just beyond the post by the Camel goalie. She nearly put the game away in overtime as well: Three minutes in, she ripped a shot from 18 yards out that smacked off the crossbar and rebounded straight down, never crossing the goal line.

Another big contributor for the Panthers on Saturday was midfielder Virginia Charman '20. She totaled four shot attempts and kept the pressure on the Camels in a number of ways beyond that, too.

Captain Alissa Huntington '18, at the helm of the defense in the center back position, has had a pretty good view of Charman's impact this season. "It's been so exciting to watch her so far," she said. "The way she battles both defensively and challenges offensively by taking on players shows such a fire and results in a contagious energy."

In fact, from where Huntington stands, the whole midfield has shown quite a bit of promise thus far. "I'm really impressed by our midfield in general," she said, "because Charman, Sara DiCenso '19, Caitlin Magruder '20 and Clare Robinson '19 have been figuring out their positioning and how to work together as a unit. Especially because they sit right in front of me, I love watching them see how to get out of congested areas, be our pivot players that switch the field, initiate the attack, and battle on defense."

It's early in the season, but their coordination and field control will certainly be a key for the Panthers this season each time they take the field.

Earlier in the week, on Wednesday, September 6, the Panthers opened their season with a 1–0 win at home over non-conference opponent Colby-Sawyer. Emma Shumway '18, a midfielder, notched Middlebury's lone score in the 64th minute. The differential could have been a lot larger, though. Middlebury controlled the ball almost the entire game, firing 11 shots on goal to Colby-Sawyer's one. The game was a "must-win," Huntington said, for the Panthers "to start off the season on a positive note. I'm glad we got that result, especially since we realized last year how crucial out of conference games are for NCAA bids."

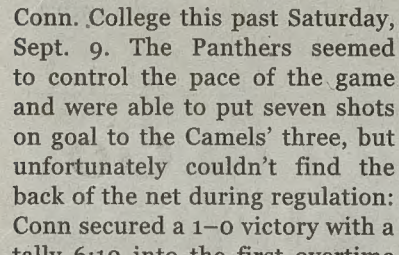
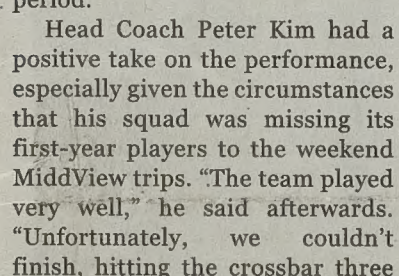
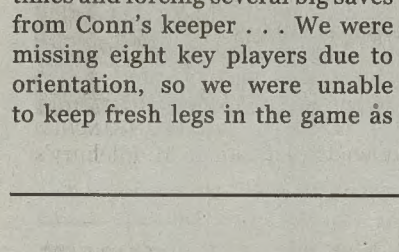
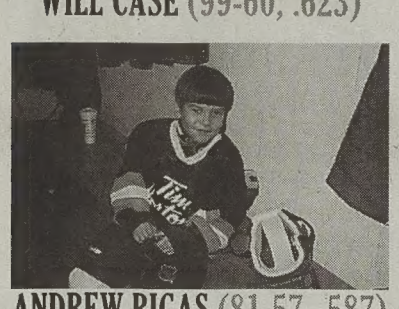
After Saturday, the Panthers will certainly welcome their first-year players back with open arms. Even though the team played with plenty of energy, the depth provided by the eight missing players will certainly serve as a shot in the arm. Huntington, who's looking back from the other end of the spectrum, reflected on the difference three years can make. She recognized that first-years can feel quite a bit of pressure in the more intense college environment. "The biggest difference for me between freshman and senior year is confidence," she said. "Coming in as a freshman is so tough because you're playing at the highest speed of play you've ever played at — and against stronger, bigger, and more experienced players."

Looking ahead, confidence will be key for the Middlebury. Coach Kim pointed out that, at the end of the day, the team will need to capitalize upon the advantages they create. "The key to success will be honing our ability to score goals," he said. "In both of our first two games, we were the dominant team but failed to score off the chances we created."

If the Panthers can have confidence in their ability to convert when they put themselves in a position to do so, they'll certainly be a force to be reckoned with in the Nescac this season.

Middlebury has two big conference matchups this weekend: on the road against Amherst on Saturday, September 16, and back home against Hamilton on Sunday, September 17.

EDITORS' PICKS

	Football: Will the Panthers open the season with a win for the third year in a row when they host Wesleyan Saturday, Sept. 16, at 1 p.m.?	**Men's Golf: Will the Panthers finish in the top-five in the Duke Nelson Invitational at the Ralph this weekend, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 16 and 17.**	**CFB pick-em: No. 3 Clemson @ No. 14 Louisville on Saturday, Sept. 16 at 8 p.m.**	**MLB pick-em: Who will win the Sunday Night Baseball matchup on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 8 p.m., Los Angeles Dodgers @ Washington Nationals?**
 **WILL CASE** (99-60, .623)	NO It'll be a nailbiter, and a high scoring affair.	WILL This is the easiest pick we've ever had to make.	CLEMSON Lamar Jackson keeps it close for a while, but Louisville's defense is a sieve.	NATS The Dodgers season went south fast.
 **ANDREW RIGAS** (81-57, .587)	YES Will, you've lost your touch.	YES 2nd place finish last weekend, I'm predicting that again this weekend.	LOUISVILLE Before the season started, Lamar Jackson wasn't the odds-on favorite to win the Heisman. He has already started to prove that wrong, and that will continue this week.	DODGERS They have to bounce back eventually. They're just too good not to.
 **ROB ERICKSON** (28-23, .549)	YES Does Rose Kennedy own a black dress? Next question.	THINK SO They didn't lose too much from last year, and they're always a competitive squad.	CLEMSON Here to stay, even without Deshaun Watson.	NATIONALS Anybody but Maeda on the bump, and I'd be picking the Dodgers instead.
SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (31-30, .508)	YES You gotta be blue, baby. Jared Lebowitz '18 will lead this high powered offense to a clean victory over the Cardinals.	YES I guess. Still don't really know that much about golf.	LOUISVILLE Lamar Jackson picks apart Clemson's defense.	DODGERS Still without Bryce Harper, the Nats may be in trouble!
 **EMILY BUSTARD** (106-110, .491)	YES Sounds promising.	YES Looks like it'll be a really beautiful weekend too.	CLEMSON I'll trust the people who came up with these rankings.	DODGERS I think they can dodge another loss in this game.

Good Time for a First

Peter Davis '19 pushes a header past the Colby-Sawyer goalie in the 81st minute to tie the game at one and score his first career goal.

See story on page 15.

COURTESY OF PAMELA QUINN

TWO TENNIS TITLES: A SECOND LOOK

By ROB ERICKSON
Sports Editor

On Saturday, May 27, after The Campus had wrapped for the semester and most Middlebury students had packed up and headed home, Lubo Cuba '19 spent his morning dominating Claremont-Mudd-Scripps' Nikolai Parodi en route to the first NCAA DIII singles title in program history. A few hours later, Cuba teamed up with William de Quant '18 to secure the DIII doubles crown, another Middlebury first, with a resounding victory over Herman Abban and Pawel Jaworski from Carthage. Now three months from that date, with the dust completely settled, we sat down with the pair to take another look at their historic seasons.

If a Just God exists — and, moreover, if he has a vested interest in the outcome of athletic competition at the Division III level — he was probably smiling down on Chattanooga, Tenn., on a late May afternoon as Lubo Cuba '19 and William de Quant '18 left the championship court with a pair of national titles under their arms.

You'd be hard-pressed to find a pair of more deserving young men: hardworking, passionate and fully cognizant of how fortunate they've been to arrive at their current position.

Sit them down separately, and you'll see just how different athletic excellence can look in two individuals. De Quant, one of this year's senior captains, has the demeanor of a confident and vocal leader: Born in France but having grown up all across Europe before finishing high school in Florida, he gives the impression of someone who'd be comfortable in any situation in which you could think to place him, and then some.

Cuba, on the other hand, guards a quiet fire behind a playful but somewhat shy countenance, exactly what you might expect from someone who left behind the glamour of a highly visible, top-25 Division I program — the University of Michigan — to chase a national championship on a lower-profile Middlebury team that, in many ways, is just as competitive.

Get the pair of them in the same room, and it becomes clear that the two have spent more than a little time together as the No. 1 doubles team for the Panthers.

De Quant began, looking back on the season as a whole: "We had a rough patch of two or three weekends in a row where we didn't do great. But I think we always knew that —"

"— we had a chance to win it all," Cuba interjected with a smile before sitting back and allowing his teammate to continue.

"We had a chance to win it all," de Quant repeated. "We knew that, if we played well and up to our capabilities, we had a chance to win. As a Middlebury team, we have the knowledge that we *can* win and that if we do the work the right way, if we have our heads on the right way, and if luck turns our way on the day, we should be able to win."

Don't be surprised if you couldn't tell whether he was referring to Cuba and himself as individual players, as a doubles pair, or to the entire Middlebury team that spent most of last season at No. 1 in the DIII rankings. Sometimes, it's unclear as to whether de Quant himself knows. To hear him tell it, he's at his best when he's just another player in a Middlebury uniform — unconscious of whether he's playing in a team match or for an individual championship.

"It's a different sport when you're on a team," he explained. "You're playing for a different thing, the motivation is different. I think that helps a lot of players grow and develop: being part of a team where you're on the sidelines, you're cheering for them. And when you're actually on the court playing, you're not playing for yourself. You're playing for a point on the team.

"The team culture matters a lot to me specifically, because I came in without a lot of confidence on the court. I didn't have too

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Golf Shows Promise With Second-Place Finishes

By WILL CASE
Sports Editor

Last weekend, Sept. 9–10, Middlebury golf started the fall season on the right foot. The men's squad took to I-125 and headed northwest to play in the Middlebury Fall Classic at Lake Placid Golf Club in Lake Placid, N.Y., where the team placed second in the opener. The women's side also finished second, as they headed about two hours further northwest on the interstate to Canton, N.Y., where they took part in the St. Lawrence Invitational held on the St. Lawrence University campus.

The highlight of the weekend for the women's team had to be their day-one-to-day-two split. After shooting a collective 312 on Saturday, the Panthers came out strong on Sunday to shoot a 303, and their nine-stroke improvement from Saturday to Sunday was the best out of the 11-team field.

"The conditions were wet all weekend," said Katharine Fortin '18. "The course had been saturated in late summer and a considerable amount of rain fell on Friday, leaving us with a wet and muddy course. However, wet conditions mean shooting at the pin and going for birdies. Everyone faced the same conditions, and the driving range was closed, so no player could hit balls prior to playing (only putting and chipping). This affected our play on Saturday, but we were much looser on Sunday and were able to shoot better scores. This course demands informed shot-making, so seeing the course on Saturday definitely had a positive impact on Sunday's scores."

Fortin, the mainstay and consistent backbone of the roster, led the way for this improvement. Fortin has already enjoyed quite a decorated career teeing off for the Panthers, finished the first weekend of her senior fall with her lowest collegiate round by shooting a 73 on Sunday.

"I am very excited that my best collegiate round fell on a weekend that the team was also on their game," Fortin said. "In previous tournaments, I could not get below the 76 number, and coming at the start of my senior season makes this 73 feel extra sweet. As always, there's work to be done, but we're celebrating this one."

Alongside the senior was Chloe Levins '20, who is sure to avoid a sophomore slump. She tallied the lowest round of her career on Saturday as she also shot a 73. This was quite the way for the Vermont native to begin a campaign in which she will aim to defend her crown as the individual Nescac champion on Oct. 7–8 when the best of the conference take to the course in Williamstown, Mass.

"Patience was key this weekend," Levins said. "After a summer of good practice, it was important to go into this weekend without expectations. Even though a lot of putts didn't fall, I played solid golf, stayed patient, and kept it all in perspective. I'm happy to have started the season on a good track."

Familiarity with the course played a factor in the team's round-over-round improvement.

"A lot of the team had never seen the course until Saturday morning," Levins said. "In general, shooting 312 and 303 as a team is a really good indicator of solid work over the offseason and good things to come from Middlebury women's golf."

Helen Dailey '19 joined Levins and Fortin as Panthers who enjoyed a day-to-day stroke improvement, as she followed an 80 on Saturday with a round of 77 on Sunday. Hope Matthews '18 shot an 80 on day one and an 82 on day two, slightly off the average pace she set last season. Blake Yaccino '20 had a solid weekend for the Panthers, shooting a 76 on Saturday and an 80 on Sunday. Yaccino figures to play a big role in whether the Panthers will have success this fall, so the team will need her to consistently play the way she did last weekend going forward.

The men's tournament in Lake Placid was only a one day event. The Panthers' second-place finish was spearheaded by 2016 individual Nescac champion Bennett Doherty '18 and Jeff Giguere '20.

Giguere picked up right where he left off last season when he wrapped up the campaign with strong showings at the Williams Spring Invitational and at Nescacs. He shot a 74, his second-best round thus far in his young Panther career.

"I do think this is a baseline for me," Giguere said. "Over the summer, I played in a few tournaments and my performance there was consistent with the score I shot this weekend. I do think I can still shave shots from my game."

Graham Kenter '18.5 also had a strong showing for the Panthers, as carded 78 that ties the lowest he has tallied as a Panther.

Despite the strong performances from Doherty, Giguere and Kenter, the Panthers still finished nine strokes back of the defending Nescac champions, Williams, providing all the motivation Middlebury needs to continue working on its game.

"Looking back on this weekend, I have found some areas of my game that need improvement and I will work hard this fall to tighten them up," Giguere said. "Overall, I am pleased with how both the team and I started off the season. We can only get better from here."

Knowing the team has ground to gain on Williams, Doherty shared Giguere's sentiment.

"Williams has a lot of great players," Doherty said. "Any one of them could end up on the top of any given leaderboard. But I think everyone on our team is capable of finding themselves atop the leaderboard as well. I think to close the gap on Williams we will just have to focus on getting better each and every day. We have a pretty balanced team this year and I know that as we improve together we will be right there with them."

With Ben Bichet '19, Phil Morin '19 and Reid Buzby '19 all abroad for the fall semester, and with the Ephs remaining as the team to beat, the Panthers need someone to step up and be a dark horse to bring Nescacs back to the Ralph next May. When asked who it might be that steps up for the Panthers, Giguere and Doherty offered that everyone looks to be playing good golf and positioned well, but that David Packer '20 is someone to keep an eye on.

"I would like to see Packer play well and I think he's got the ability to do so," Giguere said, complimenting his sophomore teammate.

"It was great to see David Packer win his two matches this weekend and I think he will keep getting better," Doherty said, also starting to look ahead to the upcoming Duke Nelson Invitational. "It will be fun to see everyone play in our Duke Nelson tournament this weekend and I look forward to the addition of our first-years as well."

The men's team will be back in action this weekend, Sept. 16–17, as they are set to host the 34th annual Duke Nelson Invitational at the Ralph. The women's team will hit the road once again and head to Wellesley, Mass., where they will take part in the annual Ann S. Batchelder.

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